

# THE ATHENÆUM

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**NOTICE.**—In consequence of the increased demand for the ATHENÆUM, and to meet the requirements of the Trade in respect to the despatch of Continental and other parcels, it is requisite that the Journal should go to press at an earlier hour on THURSDAY Night than hitherto.

This Notice is to Inform Publishers of the change, and also to intimate that Advertisement Proofs with Corrections cannot be received after One o'clock on THURSDAY.

**ROYAL SCHOOL OF MINES, JERMYN-STREET.**—Dr. FRANKLAND, F.R.S., will COMMENCE a Course of THIRTY LECTURES on ORGANIC CHEMISTRY, on TUESDAY NEXT, the 1st of February, at 10 o'clock: to be continued on each succeeding Wednesday, Thursday, Monday, and Tuesday, at the same Hour. Fee for the Course, 3l.; to those who have attended the previous Course, 2l.

**BY ORDER OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE SOANE MUSEUM.**—The MUSEUM, 13, Lincoln's Inn-fields, will be OPEN this Season on the WEDNESDAY in each week in the Months of February, March, July and August; and on the Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays in April, May and June. Cards of Admission to be obtained at the Museum.

**ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS, Burlington House.**—At a General Meeting of the Members held on TUESDAY, the 23rd inst. VICAR COLE, Esq. was elected an Associate of the Royal Academy of Arts.

JOHN PRESCOTT KNIGHT, R.A., Sec.

**ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF ENGLAND.**—AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION. The Examination of Candidates for the Society's Prizes will take place in the week commencing TUESDAY, April 26, 1870. The age of Candidates must not be above 21 years on the 1st of March. Copies of the Form required to be sent in by the 31st of March may be had on application. H. M. JENKINS, Sec. 15, Hanover-square, London, W.

**ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON,** 4, ST. MARTIN'S-PLACE, Trafalgar-square. TUESDAY, February 1, at 8 p.m.—Paper to be read, "Negro Slaves in Turkey," by Major Frederick Millington, F.R.G.S.

J. FRED. COLLINGWOOD, Secretary.

**PALEONTOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.**—The TWENTY-THIRD VOLUME, issued for the year 1869, containing Supplement to the Fossil Corals, Part II., No. 2 (Cretaceous); by Dr. Duncan, with 6 plates; The Cretaceous Echinodermata, Vol. I., Part III., by Dr. Wright, with 10 plates; The Belemnites, Part V. (Oxford Clay, &c.), by Prof. Phillips, with 5 plates; The Fishes of the Old Sandstone, Part I., concluded, by Messrs. J. Powell and E. Ray Lankester, with 9 plates; The Reptiles of the Liassic Formations, Part II., by Prof. Owen, with 4 plates; The Crustaceans, No. 1 (Zephirus), by Prof. Owen, with 5 plates.—In press ready. The Annual Subscription is One Guinea. The back volumes—one or more—can be obtained by Members on application to the Honorary Secretary, the Rev. Thomas Wiltshire, M.A. F.G.S., 13, Granville Park, Levensham, London, S.E.

**THE HOLBEIN SOCIETY.** President—SIR W. STIRLING MAXWELL, Bart. The Second Volume, HOLBEIN'S "BIBLE FIGURES," due to the Subscribers for their First Year's Subscription, will be ready early in February.—Prospectus may be obtained on application to Mr. Broomfield, 14, St. Ann's-square, Manchester.

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The Committee of the PELHAM CLUB, 15, George-street, Hanover-square, have kindly made the Members of this Club Honorary Members pending the completion of the alterations.

LOFTUS H. MARTIN, Secretary.

**KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON.**—Professor W. G. ADAMS will COMMENCE a Course of LECTURES on DYNAMICAL ELECTRICITY, including its Practical Applications in Electric Telegraphy, on THURSDAY, February 1st, at 2 p.m.; to be continued on the same Day and at the same Hour in each week. Fee for the Course, 11s. 6d. There will also be a Course of Lectures on the same Subject on Wednesday, February 2nd, at 8 p.m. For particulars apply to

J. W. CUNNINGHAM, Secretary.

**PROFESSOR TENNANT, F.G.S.** will continue a Course of LECTURES on MINERALOGY applied to GEOLOGY and the ARTS, at KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON, on WEDNESDAY and FRIDAY MORNINGS, at 9 o'clock, during FEBRUARY and MARCH, commencing JANUARY 28. Fee, 11s.

A Course of LECTURES on MINERALOGY and GEOLOGY will also be delivered on THURSDAY EVENINGS at 8 o'clock. These began JANUARY 27, and will be continued to Easter. Fee, 11s.

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**UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.** ZOOLOGY.

On TUESDAY, February 1, at 3 p.m., Prof. GRANT, M.D. F.R.S., will commence his Course of Lectures on Zoology, including an Account of the Characters, the Classification and the History of both Recent and Extinct Animals. The Lectures are delivered daily, except Saturdays, at 3 p.m. The Course will terminate at the end of May. Fee for the whole Course, 4s. The Lectures on Extinct Animals will begin early in May. Fee for this part of the Course alone, 1s. 11d.

JOHN ROBSON, B.A., Secretary to the Council. January, 1870.

**UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.**

Professor WILLIAMSON'S Course of LECTURES on ORGANIC CHEMISTRY will commence on MONDAY, February 7. The Course will occupy about six weeks, the Class meeting every day of the week, except Saturdays, from 11 to 12 a.m. Fee, 4s.

JOHN ROBSON, B.A., Secretary to the Council.

**UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.** TUESDAY EVENING LECTURES.

THE SECOND LECTURE of the Series will be delivered on February the 8th, at 8 p.m., by Prof. HENRY MORLEY. Subject, "The Allegory of the Faerie Queene."

The subsequent Lectures will be as follows:—

Third Lecture, March 8th, by Sir Edward S. Creasy. Subject, "Poetry."

Fourth Lecture, April 12th, by Prof. G. C. Foster, F.R.S. Subject, "The Mutual Convertibility of Mechanical and Electrical Energy."

Fifth Lecture, May 10th, by E. J. Poynter, Esq. A.R.S. Subject, "Realism and Beauty."

Sixth Lecture, June 14th, by Prof. C. Cassal. Subject, "French Literature and Liberty." (This Lecture will be delivered in French.)

Tickets, which are transferable, and will admit either Ladies or Gentlemen, may be obtained at the Office of the College. Price, for the Course, 10s. 6d.; for a single Lecture, 2s. 6d. The proceeds will be paid over to the Fund now being raised for erecting the South Wing of the College.

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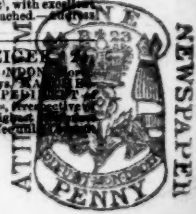
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It is true, however, that the other watch-word attributed to the problematical Society represents what is really a source of very considerable embarrassment to the Russian Government. To decree the emancipation of the serfs was easy; to settle the numerous and complicated questions to which that measure gave rise in reference to the ownership of the soil tilled by those serfs was, and still is, a hard task indeed. To us, who look on from without, the crisis through which Russia is now passing offers a spectacle which should be one of the highest interest, little attention as we have as yet thought fit to pay to it, and to the statesmen who steer the course of that country it must be a subject for the gravest anxiety, for hopes which all honest men ought to wish to see fulfilled, for misgivings

which none but selfish spectators would desire to see realized.

Selfishness, however, is not rare among politicians, and, accordingly, there exist critics who at the present moment are anxiously peering into the confusion which attends the settlement of the land question in Russia, in hope of discovering some signs of rottenness in the huge frame of the Colossus. The whole body politic, according to them, is out of joint. The upper and the lower classes have been brought into collision, and, while they are wrangling, the land which is the subject of their disputes is fast going to ruin. The emancipation has impoverished the proprietors and demoralized their tenants. The splendid aristocracy, which was so prized in former days at Nice and Baden, will no longer be able to temper despotism with the poignard, and the passive peasantry, which supplied the Imperial army with such admirable food for powder, will lose half its passiveness. Deprived of the moral restraint of slavery, the unfortunate villager has entirely given himself up to those strong drinks which, in the good old days, he was allowed to touch only on the great feasts of his Church. Shut out from the home of letters in which his mind used to be enlarged under the care of his enlightened lord, he is fast becoming an uneducated barbarian; unwisely spared the wholesome stimulant of the rod, he is in a fair way to be spoiled. Meanwhile, the soil which he once so carefully tilled is rapidly going out of cultivation. The landlord can no longer obtain labour, for his tenants cannot be forced to work, and no persuasion will induce them to leave the taverns in which they revel all day long; so the seed remains unown, and barren wastes extend where harvests used to wave.

We have among us a few sturdy admirers of absolute power, a few firm believers in the merits of despotism, who look back with regret to the days when the Russian peasantry were ruled on principles styled patriarchal,—so styled, it has been suggested, from some dim recollection of the strong measures adopted by a patriarch named Cain. To them the gloomy tone of the picture of "Modern Russia," drawn by various artists, mostly of the German school, may commend itself as natural and true. But there seems to be but little cause for the friends of liberty in general to accept the correctness of such sombre colouring. The scene which reveals itself to an unprejudiced observer in Russia is not all bathed in sunshine, it is true, but neither does it everywhere frown with the unredeemed darkness of storm.

Dr. Eckardt's work, entitled 'Modern Russia,' is a favourable specimen of German criticism upon Muscovite proceedings, but it must not pass for the work of a disinterested and dispassionate philosopher, intent only upon arriving at the truth. Dr. Eckardt is a skilful controversialist, and he is well acquainted with the subject which he treats, and as far as regards the contest which has for some time been carried on between him and several of the writers of the Extreme Muscovite school,—Mr. Yury Samarin, for instance,—on the subject of the attempts to Russify the Baltic Provinces, there is much to be said in his favour. Perhaps we ought to set down to his controversial skill the fact that his book is put forth as though it were a perfectly new and original work;

whereas it is a translation of various writings previously published by the author at different times in Germany. Most of the first part, called 'Russia under Alexander II.,' appeared, if we remember rightly, in the *Preussische Jahrbücher*; its "words respecting the agrarian organization of Russia" will be found, in their original German, in the author's book styled 'Russlands ländliche Zustände,' &c., to which we shall refer a little later; and the essays on 'Russian Communism,' 'The Greek Orthodox Church,' and 'The Baltic Provinces of Russia' may be studied by any one who prefers the author's own words to those of his translators, in his 'Baltische und Russische Culturstudien,' published last year at Leipsic.

His little book entitled 'Russlands ländliche Zustände seit Aufhebung der Leibeigenschaft,' consists of three Russian pamphlets, which he has translated, together with the Introduction he has prefixed to them. The first of the three originally saw the light nearly two years ago, under the title of 'Land and Liberty'; the second was published about a twelvemonth ago by a well-known writer named Koshelef; and the third appeared in the year 1866, in the form of a letter from a correspondent in the country to the *Moscow Gazette*. The only important one of the three is that of Koshelef, but even upon it there is no occasion to dwell at present, as it has already been noticed in our columns (*Athen.* No. 2201). We prefer to turn to a far more useful guide to the changes which have taken place in Russia, the essay by Doctor Julius Faucher, published in the volume edited by the Cobden Club. It is written with so much fairness to all parties concerned, but at the same time in so liberal and hopeful a spirit, and it has so evidently been compiled with praiseworthy care by one who is well acquainted with the subject, that Englishmen who wish to know what has really been done in Russia with respect to land tenure cannot do better than consult it, at all events pending the publication of the elaborate Report on the subject which has been drawn up for the Foreign Office by Mr. Michell, one of the secretaries of our embassy at St. Petersburg.

Before issuing the Ukase of February 19, 1861, which abolished slavery throughout Russia, the Government had to take into consideration the relations then existing between the peasants and the proprietors to whom they belonged, and to settle in what way the difficulties were to be met which must arise from their abrupt termination. From the time when Boris Godunof (whose name has been printed Godsmow throughout Dr. Faucher's essay) deprived the peasants of their liberty to shift their quarters, and so chained them to the soil, till the reign of Paul, the lot of the rural population of Russia was a hard one indeed; and although under Alexander the First and Nicholas something was done to mitigate its severity, still Alexander the Second, on his accession to the throne, found the two or three and twenty millions of peasants who belonged to private proprietors in a very sad condition. It was easy to release them by a single blow from the thralldom in which they had so long been held, but it was not so easy to settle under what conditions they should obtain a share of the soil on which they lived. Hitherto it had been believed by many of them that although they belonged to their lord, yet

the land belonged to them, and they would expect therefore that they were now to possess both "land and liberty" in full, and that their former master was either to retire altogether from the scene, or to cast in his lot with theirs and take his share of the soil as one of them. It was known, too, that this theory was in favour with many philosophers, especially with those who, from their safe retreats in Geneva and other foreign cities, were from time to time urging their enthusiastic disciples in Russia to take such steps as must lead to certain destruction. On the other hand, the proprietors were not likely to hold so distasteful a theory, and might in future make it very difficult for their emancipated peasants to obtain the use of those fields which they had hitherto as serfs been allowed to cultivate at a fixed rent, paid either in money or in labour. The manner in which the Government has attempted to do justice to the fair claims of the two parties ought to be well known to most readers, but the plan which, after some hesitation, it rejected is probably not so generally known, and it may be as well to refer to Dr. Faucher's account of it before we proceed to the scheme which was ultimately adopted. The original idea was "to transfer to the enfranchised serfs the full property of the huts in which they lived, with but a small patch of garden attached to each, without any payment on the part of the peasants, and to leave the proprietors in possession of the whole acreage." This was a very simple plan, but it pleased neither the democratic party nor the Imperial Government, "who looked upon the creation of an order of peasant-proprietors, at least of peasant farmers, as essentially contributing to the stability of the throne," and it would have had to struggle against "the undeniable disinclination of the serfs themselves to part with what they had still considered as a kind, at least, of right of property in spite of serfdom." This plan fell through. Under that adopted, each proprietor was bound, in the first place, to make over to his peasants their homesteads, that is to say, the ground occupied by their houses and gardens, and in the second place to allow them a certain amount of arable land for their farms. The amount of the latter was settled by regulations which varied in the different "zones" into which the country was divided for the purpose of assisting the necessary calculations. "The real extent of the grant," says Dr. Faucher, "will have been, in most cases, that of the 'Nadel,' that is to say, of the land which the peasants had under cultivation for sustaining themselves and their families" while serfdom still existed. The lowest amount allowed is in the district of Moscow, where about an acre "per male head of the population" is fixed as the minimum. The highest, for there is a maximum fixed as well as a minimum in this part of the bargain, is attained in the thinly-peopled districts of the "Steppe zone," where it reaches about twenty-four acres to every male.

This land was to be held by the peasants of each village in common; that is to say, "for the space of nine years after the new regulations had become the law of the land, it was rendered obligatory on the peasantry to keep the land in copyhold against the payment of rent." The amount of that rent, whether paid in money or in labour, may be gathered from

the computation made by Dr. Faucher that the average maximum share of each male peasant is about twelve acres in size, and its rent in the form of labour is set down "at seventy working days, made up of male and female, of summer and winter labour," while its average rent in the form of money is about 28s., so that it seems that "the legislator has estimated the rent of an acre in Russia at 2s. 4d., and the wages of agricultural labour at 5d. a day."

As a general rule, then, after their portion of the soil had been allotted them, "it was rendered obligatory on the peasantry to keep the land in copyhold against payment of rent" for the space of nine years. That term has now all but come to an end, and it will be curious to see what changes this year will introduce into Russia, and, among others, how far it will affect the communal institutions of the country. Hitherto the commune has been everything to the Russian peasant; but now, with altered times, circumstances also have altered. The responsibility of paying taxes and providing recruits has been shifted from the noble proprietor of the soil to the village commune, and it weighs heavily on the minds of at least the younger members of the community. Some of the older and richer members, also, are inclined to obtain freeholds for themselves, and in order to do this they wish to retire from the commune, if not to break it up altogether. We have stated that the peasants were compelled, as a general rule, to accept the copyhold of the land allotted to them, but there is a provision in the Act of 1861, by which "the proprietor of the estate is compelled to accept their money, if they are able and willing to buy either each his own share, dissolving the community, or together the whole of the grant, continuing the community." And in order to enable them to do this, the Government has undertaken to advance them the greater part of the necessary sums, evidently desiring to do all that lies in its power to foster the growth of a class of peasant proprietors, whether they hold the land individually or in common.

In some districts a considerable body of such proprietors has already sprung up, and where the soil is rich their numbers may be expected to increase. But in the poorer regions, as, for instance, in many parts of White Russia, the peasantry would be more likely, if they could afford it, to break up their communes, and go forth in search of new pastures, than to spend their means on the purchase of ungrateful wastes from which little more can be hoped than the means of painfully staving off famine from harvest to harvest.

As regards the value of communal institutions there are widely diverging opinions. Dr. Faucher is of opinion, that should the "Mir," or commune, prevail, colonization will undoubtedly be favoured by it, but interior social progress will be weak, and the country will continue to be in danger of despotic political and social institutions; but he does not think the "Mir" will long be popular among the Russian peasants, about whom his last words are, "I fancy that I have discovered very great resemblances between them and the peasantry, of mixed German and Slavonic blood, in the eastern provinces of my own country, Prussia. If I am right in this, then anything rather than communistic habits and leanings are to be expected from them as free men; and I hope it will be so,

in the general interests of civilized society." Dr. Eckardt, who holds that "the discovery of the system of communism is the merit of the well-known Baron August von Haxthausen," is strongly opposed to the idea of the commune, and says many unkind things about it. Even such a fair critic as Dr. Faucher is of opinion that "had the ancient Russian villagers not been communists, they would not have become slaves;" but this is a mere assertion, and one of which it would be difficult to prove the truth. On the contrary, it would be far more easy to show how much the institution of the commune has done towards preserving the serf from falling into the position of a mere slave, standing as a bulwark between him and, first, the Mongol invader, and, secondly, the native noble. Surely the affection for the "Mir," which is apparent in the Russian peasant's proverbial philosophy, was not based on so unreal a ground as German writers would fain lead us to believe.

Whatever we may think of Dr. Faucher's opinions about the Commune, we can fully agree with him in the greater part of his conclusions about the changes which are going on in Russia. It is pleasant to turn to his fair and sympathetic criticism after listening to the sneering tones, the biased statements of too many among those of his countrymen—including some of the "own correspondents" of our journals—who sit in judgment on what is taking place there. Whatever may be the result of certain clauses in the Act of 1861, its general effect can scarcely fail to be in the highest degree beneficial to the masses of a people whose gentle and kindly disposition might well gain for them the good will even of those persons who take no interest in the fortunes of mankind in general, and who care but little, so long as they themselves are comfortable, whether their neighbours are happy or are wretched, are freemen or are slaves.

*The Pentateuch and its Anatomists.* By the Rev. T. R. Birks. (Hatchards.)

This work seems to proceed from a very earnest theologian. He is bold, dogmatic and vehement in assertion. We do not admire the spirit. It is not like that inculcated in the New Testament. A few specimens will show its character:—

"The more thoroughly the hypothesis (of documents in the Pentateuch) is examined by the ordinary rules of evidence, the more difficult will it be to explain how it could ever have arisen; unless from a judicial visitation which turns wise men backwards, and makes their knowledge foolish when they dare with unholy hands to tear in pieces and mangle the oracles of the living God."

"To infer from it with Dr. Davidson, in the face of the plain words of the text, that Genesis vi. 13—21, and vii. 1—5, must be parallel, not successive, is lunacy, not criticism."

"Whoever denies it must be either blind or dishonest."

"There seems really no limit to the childish folly into which men may be permitted to fall when they rely on their own fancied learning to cast foul reproach on the words of the living God."

"An object worthy of a third-class grammatical pedant, pursued by means worthy of the Arch-liar himself."

"The last remark" (made by Dr. Colenso) "amounts to an assertion that the Deuteronomist, being a consummate and hardened liar, capable of the worst profaneness, treated the writer of Exodus



as another liar of the same stamp. The hypothesis is hateful and even horrible. It involves the necessary consequence that the Lord of Glory was a third deceiver, who indorsed and ratified these lies of the Elohist and Deuteronomist, and thus gave them a tenfold and hundredfold wider currency than before."

"If Moses must indeed be stripped of his robe of honour, confirmed to him by the lips of the Lord of Glory, it would have been wiser for the negative critics to have borrowed a lesson from the Roman soldiers, who said, 'Let us not rend it, but cast lots for it whose it shall be.' The seamless robe resists, and bids defiance to the hand of the spoiler."

"So strange and violent are the shifts to which those critics are obliged to have recourse who burn incense to their own critical dissecting-knife, and thus blind themselves to the unity and divine harmony of these 'true sayings of God.'"

These samples of dogmatic assertion or unjustifiable inference are a fair index of the way in which Mr. Birks writes and reasons. His epithets have more plainness than refinement. The object of the book is to prove that Moses wrote the Pentateuch as we now have it; that it was not a growth, but a single effusion; and that to maintain the document-hypothesis in any shape is to deny the words of Our Lord. The critics whom he selects to demolish are Dr. Davidson and the Bishop of Natal. It is doubtful whether the author possesses the knowledge, calmness, or critical sagacity necessary to a successful performance of his task. We fail to detect the evidence of a capacity for historical criticism or of Hebrew scholarship; and refuse to believe with him that "the mere English scholar is neraly as competent as the most learned Hebraist to form a sound judgment." He uses force to adjust everything, as he goes along, to an assumed unity of authorship. He denies that there are two cosmogonies in Genesis i. and ii., 4, &c.,—explains away contradictions and anachronisms, double namings of one place at different times, and double etymologies, to his own satisfaction,—tells why Elohim and Jehovah are used by Moses in the various chapters where they occur,—and makes out his general conclusion with much ingenuity. We confess, however, to a feeling of distrust in a manipulation which is often unnatural and far-fetched. Thus, while admitting that the use of Jehovah in Genesis xxxviii. is surprising because it records the sin of Judah, he finds the key in Judah being the ancestor of Messiah! He denies that the words of Lamech, in Genesis v. 28, imply an *etymological* meaning based on the Hebrew verb to *comfort*, which differs from the root of *rest*; though the fact is obvious.

There was a time when the most orthodox believers in the Mosaic authorship of the Pentateuch allowed that some passages and expressions proceeded from a later hand, such as Ezra's. Prideaux attributes to him interpolations in Genesis xii. 6, xxii. 14, xxxvi. 31; Exodus xvi. 35; Deut. ii. 12, iii. 11, 14; and the same writer asserts that he changed the old names of several places, such as Dan for Laish, in Genesis xiv. 14; and Hebron (Numbers xiii. 22) for Kirjath-Arba. Bishop Marsh agrees with Prideaux. Now, however, all this is disallowed; and Moses must be made to write names later than his time.

Mr. Birks makes some mistakes. He says that De Wette held Deuteronomy to be the first-written of the five books; whereas he

held it to be the last. He attributes to the same critic the holding of several Jehovahists; whereas he supposed but one. To Knobel he assigns the belief in three or four Jehovahists; though that lamented scholar maintained but one. Hupfeld's name is regularly misspelt; so is Hartmann's (Hirtmann). The present vindicator of Moses has read none of these authors; but they are Germans, and therefore, Mr. Birks tells us, "strangers to that judicial temper of mind which English thinkers usually attain in a far higher measure."

Mr. Birks will scarcely succeed in shaping the conviction of such as read the Pentateuch with attention. It is possible that the ablest Hebraists are wrong in supposing that there are at least two writers in the Pentateuch; probably four, as Nöldeke has recently endeavoured to prove; but we prefer their conclusions to the strained efforts of one who sets out with a predetermined opinion.

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*Across America and Asia; Notes of a Journey around the World, and of Residence in Arizona, Japan and China.* By Raphael Pumpelly. (Low & Co.)

A GLANCE at the circumstances under which the journeys were made, and at the unusual opportunities opened to him by positions which his scientific ability obtained, will show us that even if Mr. Pumpelly had been the most ordinary of observers his book could hardly have failed to be valuable as a collection of statements and record of facts. But the reader who turns to the volume itself will agree with us that he has given to it the additional value of vivid and powerful description, and has reproduced with rare ability the life and varied interest of his journey.

Mr. Pumpelly started for Arizona, to reach his post as mining engineer of the silver mines of the Santa Rita, in the autumn of 1860. The first chapter of his story might certainly serve as a model of conciseness; in it he brings us, if we may use the expression, safely across portions of Missouri, Arkansas, the Indian territory, Texas, New Mexico and Arizona; yet he succeeds in giving us a most complete account of the natural features and scenery of the country, describing with equal force the valley of the Red River, "one of the Edens of the earth," and the desert region farther to the south and west; drawing an admirable picture, too, of the discomforts of travel in a crowded overland "stage" with most disagreeable companions; of the torture of the continued wakefulness forced upon the passenger; and, finally, of the country which was to be his home,—not a pleasant home, as the reader of the book will learn, though the scenery surrounding it was singular and often beautiful. The story of the engineer's residence in the Santa Rita valley contains a rare concentration of horror in its simply-told events. The four Americans at Santa Rita lived at their hacienda, exposed to the Indians from without, and to the treachery of the Mexican workmen from within their little settlement. One of the four went at night to meet some waggons which were thought to be approaching; growing anxious for his safety, Mr. Pumpelly and the book-keeper followed him in the course of half-an-hour, to find him lying dead and mutilated near the empty waggons and the murdered drivers. At another time the smelter

was shot while tending the furnace; on several occasions attacks were made by the Indians and repulsed. But the working of the mine was continued in spite of all, and the results of "eight months of mining operations in an Apache stronghold" were carried away in safety to Tubac. To give an idea of this Arizona life, and of that which followed it during the journey to the coast, we should need to quote an entire chapter, in which, among vivid and forcible descriptions of the country, Indian massacres and scenes of border-ruffianism are set forth in the few brief words that impress the reader; it is the simple story of one who has lived among the dangers he tells us of, and who does not exaggerate their horrors.

On his arrival in San Francisco, Mr. Pumpelly heard of his appointment by the Japanese Government, through its commercial agent, as mining engineer to explore a portion of Japan. He crossed the Pacific in a clipper-ship, making a long and tedious voyage; but in the short chapter describing it he has given us a just and valuable sketch of the Sandwich Islands;—such a concise collection of accurately given facts as has long been needed.

Several chapters are devoted to the religion and history of the Japanese, and Mr. Pumpelly has been especially happy in his synopsis of the Buddhist and Sinto theologies. His removal to China was caused by the anti-foreign party getting the control of the Japanese Government in 1863, and while in Pekin our author was commissioned by the Chinese Government to examine the coal-fields of China, and started on a tour of investigation which gave him unusual opportunities of observing portions of the country seldom visited. The fruits of his scientific researches in this field he gave, with those of other portions of his journey, in his 'Geological Researches in China, Mongolia and Japan,' published in America by the Smithsonian Institution. In the present volume he devotes much of his account of this excursion, and of that afterwards made along the Great Wall with Dr. Pogojeff, of the Russian Legation, to a deeper study than he had before made of the character of the Chinese people. Aided by his companion's thorough knowledge of the language, and travelling where few had passed before him, he has told us his experiences with an absence of prejudice which makes them worthy of earnest attention from all those who are interested in the great social problems which are found in the study of this nation, and which every day's events bring more prominently before us. Mr. Pumpelly's statements certainly show a large balance in favour of the honesty, courtesy and ability of the Chinese, and yet the statements are made in no spirit of partiality. The author speaks of his first impressions as unfavourable, and does not attempt to palliate the instances of dishonesty which came under his observation, or the occasional opposition which met the travellers. On several occasions the curiosity to see them gave rise to tumults, but to nothing so serious as the "lawless soldiers," so promptly censured, had occasioned on the Upper Yangtse. Once the crowd which followed them hooted and threw missiles, threatening a serious disturbance: this was checked in so singular a manner that we quote the passage describing it, together with the author's comment:—

"When they had reached this point, Murray

stopped his horse, and, turning to face the crowd, raised his hand to motion silence: 'O, people of Ta-hwei-chang!' exclaimed Murray, in excellent Chinese, 'is this your hospitality? Do ye thus observe the injunctions of your sages, that ye shall treat kindly the stranger that is within your gates? Have ye forgotten that your great teacher, Confucius, hath said, "What I would not that men should do to me, that would I not also do to men?"' The effect of this exhortation was as remarkable as it was unexpected by me. In an instant the character of the crowd was changed: the hooting and pelting had stopped to hear the barbarian talking in the familiar words of Confucius; the old men bowed approvingly, and a number of boys jumped forward to show us the way. This scene will appear more impressive by contrast, if we suppose a couple of Chinamen, followed by a crowd of a few thousand American men and boys; and if we suppose the two strangers to turn and quote in good English the similar passage of Our Lord's Sermon on the Mount. The reader may form his own opinion as to the success of such an experiment."

Prof. Pumpelly's views on Western Policy in China and Japan, and on the Chinese as Emigrants and Colonizers, are valuable. We do not intend here to enter into a discussion of them; but questions relating to China and Japan are assuming an unprecedented importance in the foreign relations of England and in the politics of America, at home as well as abroad. All that is trustworthy, whether in opinion or evidence, is eagerly sought for; and the views of Prof. Pumpelly cannot fail to play a prominent part, as arguments, on questions where his opportunities for investigation have been so numerous and so diligently used.

*The Poetical Works of Percy Bysshe Shelley.*  
A Revised Text, with Notes and a Memoir  
by W. M. Rossetti. 2 vols. (Moxon.)

MR. ROSSETTI has the authority of Mr. Browning for thinking that "a full life of Shelley should be written at once, while the materials for it continue in reach; a biography composed in harmony with the present general disposition to have faith in him, yet not shrinking from a candid statement of all ambiguous passages;" and that of Mr. Swinburne and Mr. Allingham for saying that "hardly any great poet, certainly no modern one, has been so inaccurately printed as Shelley." "Helps to the very necessary revision," continues Mr. Allingham, "are in existence, and ought quickly to be used." Accordingly, Mr. Rossetti gives us in these two bulky volumes a memoir, a revised text, and a critical commentary. Unfortunately, he has in his possession neither the materials for such a biography as Mr. Browning desires, nor those "helps to a revision" which Mr. Allingham believes to be still in existence. We conceive, furthermore, that he is deficient in certain qualifications without which no materials and no helps could be successfully made use of; and finally, that, in the case of the Memoir, he has proceeded upon a wrong plan. As these assertions amount to a declaration that Mr. Rossetti's somewhat pretentious book is anything but a standard work, we feel bound to justify them by formal proofs. To begin with our last point: when we say that the Memoir prefixed to this edition is constructed upon a wrong plan, we mean that it is neither a complete biography based upon authoritative information, nor a brief summary of acknowledged facts. Either of these, if well executed,

would have been a valuable introduction to Shelley's poetical works. The Memoir before us is something between the two. It contains abundant extracts from the published recollections and papers of Mr. Trelawny, Mr. Hogg and others, but adds little or nothing to our knowledge of Shelley's life. A few unimportant anecdotes are, indeed, all that is not already in print. If there had been no documentary evidence to adduce, we might have been content with a collection such as this: but a passage in the Shelley Memorials shows that letters and papers bearing upon one, at least, of the crises of Shelley's life are still in existence, and may some day be given to the world. It runs as follows:—

"We who bear his name and are of his family, have in our possession papers written by his own hand, which, in after years, may make the story of his life complete, and which few now living, except Shelley's own children, have ever perused."

That Mr. Rossetti has not had access to the family papers which can alone clear up the mysteries of Shelley's short but tragic existence, is clear from such admissions as the following:—

"A great deal in this matter" (the separation of Shelley from his first wife) "depends on the question of precise dates, which the materials at my command do not enable me to determine."

(The passage quoted above from the 'Shelley Memorials' has especial reference to this very affair.) Again, in speaking of Harriett Shelley's life after the separation, Mr. Rossetti is forced to admit that he has no unpublished details to make known. Had he been at all in the confidence of the Shelley family, he would at least have been permitted a view of the poet's portrait. At page cxlviii we read:—

"I may perhaps as well give here the notes which I roughly jotted down concerning the portrait by Miss Curran (daughter of the Irish statesman) when I saw it in 1868 in the Exhibition of National Portraits at South Kensington, to which it had been contributed by Sir Percy Shelley."

He acknowledges that the transcripts of Shelley's letters in Mr. Hogg's Life are not to be trusted, but he has either omitted to apply for leave to collate the copies with the originals (which can hardly have been destroyed), or, as is more probable, been met with a refusal.

If, therefore, Mr. Rossetti has anything to tell us which we did not know before, his discoveries must have been the result of judicious arrangement and skilful manipulation of materials already in our possession; and if his opinion in affirmation or negation of statements made by others is to weigh with us as an independent authority, he must first convince us that he is gifted with insight into character and the faculty of sifting evidence. On examination we do not find that he has made any discoveries; he is content with re-asserting what has been asserted before, and his re-assertions do not in any way strengthen our belief, because several passages both in his narrative and in his commentary indicate a want of knowledge of character and a singular deficiency in judicial penetration. It is sometimes rather an advantage than a disadvantage that a biographer should entertain an exaggerated admiration for his hero; but it is not so in the present instance. The biographer of Shelley has to unravel a tangled web of contradictory statements, made by Shelley himself, by interested friends, and by prejudiced ene-

mies. Impartiality and discrimination are, therefore, necessary qualifications for the task. We cannot accredit Mr. Rossetti with either, when we find him declaiming about "the lofty veracity of Shelley's character," after having elsewhere admitted that he frequently "understated his age, whether through negligence of mind or possibly with a spice of coxcombry," that he was guilty of wholesale plagiarism, or, at the least, was a party to it, and that there is grave reason to suppose that his stories of insults offered and assassinations attempted were the figments of his own brain. The most charitable interpretation which the facts will bear is, that Shelley was so entirely a slave to the imaginative part of his nature that he was occasionally unable to distinguish truth from fiction. To say nothing of the mysterious complaint with which he believed himself to be afflicted, there is a long list of extraordinary adventures, which may, or may not, have taken place: a robbery on January 26, 1812; an attempted assassination on February 26th of the same year; an escape from shipwreck in 1813 or 1814; a quarrel with an English officer, variously stated to have happened at the Post Office at Rome on May 6, 1819, and at the Post Office at Pisa in 1820. Perhaps we should class with these stories the romantic tale of a "married lady of fashion, young, handsome, rich and nobly connected," who offered him her love when he was in London in 1816, followed him to the Lake of Geneva, and tracked his footsteps until in 1819 she met him again at Naples.

Even if he had nothing new to tell, Mr. Rossetti might at any rate have given us a simple narrative of the leading incidents of Shelley's life, without entangling himself in unsatisfactory conjectures about the obscurities of it. Unluckily, he labours under serious disqualifications even for this less arduous task. He is frequently guilty of gross violations of taste both in conception and in phraseology. His faults of this sort are so flagrant that we feel bound to give examples of them:—

"He left him one of the opulent heirs of the kingdom: 300,000*l.* in the Funds and 20,000*l.* per annum being named as the amount which the vigorous old man 'cut up for.'"

Percy Bysshe Shelley was born at Field Place, on the 4th of August, 1792. To mention August, 1792, is to carry back one's mind to the overthrow of monarchy in France. . . . And perhaps the transaction going on within the penetralia of Field Place was of quite coequal importance to the cause of revolutionary free thought."

"The activity of Shelley's boyish imagination is best proved by the fact that he 'went in for' ghosts and fiends with a real eye to business."

"There is ease of a certain kind, but slaving is a notoriously easy process."

"A storm was now brewing in the Westbrooking teapot, and the liquor boiled over into Shelley's lips, guided thereto by steady female manipulation."

"These heavy and pappy performances ('Gertrude of Wyoming' and 'The Pleasures of Hope') will no doubt be long survived by some of the national lyrics of the same author, which are indeed very fine. . . . I believe Campbell was not a contributor to the *Literary Gazette*, and should not therefore be branded, even by surmise, as the vile and loathsome ruffian who wrote that critique. The vomit of creation who wrote a review of 'Queen Mab' in the same paper was apparently a different person."

A man who could pen these sentences was hardly the proper person to write the life of



Shelley. He seems to mistake slang for wit and coarseness for strength. It will be perceived from our quotations that his style is anything but good, even where it does not absolutely sin against the rules of taste. His criticisms too are, for the most part, worth little. It may be questioned whether the chapters entitled 'Shelley on the Fine Arts' and 'Shelley's Opinions' should have been introduced, even if the matter contained in them had been more satisfactory. As it is, we have no hesitation in condemning them.

Two or three points in the narrative seem here to call for special notice. In the first place, we demur to our author's interpretation of a phrase in a letter from Shelley to Mr. Hogg, about the engagement with Harriett Westbrook. Shelley says, "She wrote to say that resistance was useless, but that she would fly with me; and threw herself upon my protection." This is interpreted to mean that "Harriett was quite ready to be Shelley's mistress, and professedly—not perhaps in truth—aspired to nothing higher, and that it was wholly and solely the poet's strong sense of honour which induced him, and this in the teeth of some pet theories of his own, to make her at once his wife." We do not think that the phrase "threw herself upon my protection" has here any such meaning. Shelley's letters at this period are so wild and incoherent that it is difficult to arrive at a definite interpretation of them; but we incline to the belief that it was Harriett Westbrook's desire that the marriage ceremony should be performed, which induced him to sacrifice his anti-matrimonial principles. In the second place, we are inclined to distrust Mr. Rossetti's account of the *liaison* between Byron and Miss Clairmont:—

"Byron possibly—indeed, probably—had then admired her: if not then, he did so now. The result was the birth, in the following January, of the daughter known to Byronic biographers as Allegra, or Alba. Shelley and Mary knew nothing of this fleeting outburst of passion at the time, and were by no means pleased when its results became apparent."

If this is the true version of the story, it makes Byron's behaviour all the worse; but if Shelley and Mary Godwin resented his conduct, how was it that they were so soon and so completely reconciled to him? Is it not more probable that they followed out their acknowledged principles to the just conclusion, and connived at the affair?

Mr. Rossetti appears uncertain how to regard Shelley's attachment to Emilia Viviani. In the text he implies a belief that it was purely Platonic, but the following note seems to point to a different conclusion:—

"The passage, I am informed, is much to the following effect: Emilia is comparing herself to flowers at dawn-time, which have all the freshness of the dew upon them, and whose honey has been robbed as yet by no bee: 'You alone have been my bee, O adorato sposo.'"

Manifestly this sentence should not have been quoted at second hand and without the context. It is only natural that readers of 'Epipsychidion' should be somewhat curious about the lady to whom the poem was addressed; but the publication of this fragment is no better than an attempt to gratify the appetite of a scandal-loving public. Indications are not wanting that Shelley's domestic relations were not altogether satisfactory; but we do not

sympathize with Mr. Rossetti in his desire to raise the veil.

The following Shelleyana are new to us:—

"I have seen a letter of Shelley's, written from Keswick, inscribed outside 'Single sheet, by God,' for every postman to read. He had had reason to consider himself overcharged by the post under the old regulations concerning single or double sheets."

"Mr. Trelawny tells me that such was Shelley's interest in the Bible—the Old Testament in especial—that he said on one occasion that, if he could save only one book from a general catastrophe of letters, he would select the Bible. What he particularly valued was its historic and poetic antiquity."

It is now time that we turned to the other division of the work—the revision of the text. Here we can, at all events, give Mr. Rossetti credit for care and industry, although his lack of judgment detracts seriously from the value of his editorial labours. It will be remembered that Mrs. Shelley edited the first collected edition of her husband's works in 1839. In November of that year, in a postscript to the Preface, she writes, "I now present this edition as a complete collection of my husband's poetical works, and I do not foresee that I can hereafter add or take away a word or line." (Not having the original before us we make this quotation at second hand from Mr. Thornton Hunt's article in the *Atlantic Monthly*.) It may be questioned on *a priori* grounds whether it was desirable, in the face of so authoritative a declaration from a competent editor, that Shelley's juvenile and rejected compositions should be republished. The additional poems which Mr. Rossetti now prints for the first time, or reprints from the works of Messrs. Hogg, Medwin, Garnett and others, are, as he himself admits, of little intrinsic value—so little, that we could have wished that he had been content to abide by Mrs. Shelley's decision. It is, indeed, no kindness to the memory of a great poet to collect all his abortive efforts; least of all in the case of one who writes much and rapidly in moments of inspiration, and afterwards, out of fragmentary materials, constructs a finished work. That this was Shelley's mode of procedure we know from his own words to Mr. Trelawny:—

"When my brain gets heated with thought it soon boils, and throws off images and words faster than I can skim them off. In the morning, when cooled down, out of the rude sketch I shall attempt a drawing."

In particular, we regret the publication of the juvenile poems.—

"I must here avow and premise," says Mr. Rossetti, "that I regard the main body of these juvenile poems as being not only poorish sort of stuff, but absolute and heinous rubbish. . . 'Why, then,' it may pertinently be asked, 'give ampler publicity to all this vile stuff, capable only of derogating from that typical Shelley created for the homage of continents and centuries?' I answer: Because it interests me as being Shelley's, and ought in my opinion to interest everybody to whom the later developments of that astonishing mind are dear. To find that Pope, whose manhood produced the 'Satires,' had in boyhood the capacity which goes to the 'Ode on Solitude' is interesting, and that, apart from the merit which these juvenile verses possess, to find that Shelley, whose manhood produced 'The Cenci' and 'The Witch of Atlas,' had in boyhood the incapacity which babbles in the poems of 'St. Irvyne,' is also, and indeed equally, interesting."

We have no sympathy with Mr. Rossetti in this matter. It is enough for us to know, on

the authority of biographers, who are proverbially unlikely to pass a severe judgment upon such productions, that the poet in his boyhood wrote trash like other boys. So far from feeling a desire to assure ourselves of the fact, we resent the intrusion of it upon our notice. Why, for instance, should we be asked to read the following Latin epigram, presumably written as a task at Eton?—

IN HOROLOGIUM.

Inter marmoreas Leonora pendula colles  
Fortunata nimis machina dicit horas.  
Quas manibus premit illa duas insensa papillas  
Cur mihi sit digito tangere, amata, nefas?

It is no satisfaction to the reader to know that Shelley, when he was a schoolboy, was guilty of false quantities, execrable Latinity and bad taste. The faults of these long-forgotten compositions in no way detract from Shelley's fame; but they in no way enhance it, and do not throw any light upon his character. Why, then, should they be published or republished?

That the poems which appear in the collected edition need a careful revision cannot be denied, and thanks are due to the present editor for the pains which he has taken in collating texts and noting obscurities. But it must be borne in mind that "of the principal poems (or the great majority of them) the MSS. are not now known to exist." Hence corrections must be purely conjectural, and the careful reader will find that Mr. Rossetti is anything but a trustworthy interpreter. The errors in the text are due to two principal causes: first, the circumstances under which the poems were published; secondly, Shelley's negligence both in composing and in revising. Several of the most important poems were privately printed, and so escaped accurate criticism. Several were printed in England during the author's residence in Italy, so that the proofs did not pass under his eye. Moreover, when a poem was once completed, Shelley was always eager to transfer it to the publisher, and, as it would seem, never thought of revising the published work. "If you ask me," he said to Trelawny, "why I publish what few or none will care to read, it is that the spirits I have raised haunt me until they are sent to the devil of a printer. All authors are anxious to breech their bantlings." Apparently, Shelley took no thought of his bantlings when once the process of breeching had been completed. These facts will account for many of the inaccuracies of the text. Another fruitful source of error was Shelley's habit of writing down one of two or three possible words, without being careful to select that which the metre required. For instance, in 'Rosalind and Helen' there are the following lines:—

But now—'twas the season fair and mild  
When April has wept itself to May;  
I sate through the sweet sunny day  
By my window bowered round with leaves,  
And down my cheeks the quick tears ran  
Like twinkling raindrops from the eaves  
When warm Spring showers are passing o'er,  
O Helen, none can ever tell  
The joy it was to weep once more!

Here "ran" and "tell" have no rhyme: in all probability Shelley intended to write "fell" instead of "ran"; indeed, we think that Mr. Rossetti is justified in making the correction. But there are many cases in which no certain emendation can be proposed, and in which the judicious editor will refrain from tampering

with the text. In cases of doubt it is the more difficult to correct, inasmuch as Shelley often took great liberties in rhyming; so that the commentator has no satisfactory criterion to guide him.

Under these circumstances, we prefer the text of the original, with all its inaccuracies and irregularities, to Mr. Rossetti's untrustworthy revision. In many instances he deals with the text just as the old editors dealt with the text of Shakspeare; that is to say, he makes arbitrary alterations in it in order to make it accord with his own ideas of metrical harmony. For instance, the received text of 'Julian and Maddalo' gives

Fear me not : against thee I'd not move.

Upon this line Mr. Rossetti comments thus:—

"The metre of this line is anything but perfect: as a substitute, one might propose either

Fear thou me not : against thee I'd not move,

or

Fear me not : I against thee would not move."

Again, in 'Prometheus Unbound,' for

Purple and azure, white, green, and golden,

he gives

Purple and azure, white and green and golden.

And in 'The Cenci,' on the lines—

All-beholding Sun,  
Strike in thine envy those life-darting eyes  
With thine own blinding beams!

LUCRETIA.

Peace! peace!

For thine own sake unsay those dreadful words!

He remarks—

"Perhaps we ought to read, 'Peace, husband, peace.'"

In all cases of this kind, we prefer to abide by the received text, thinking that it is more probable that commentators will take a mean and servile view of the metre than that the poet has omitted a word which he meant to have inserted.

On the other hand, the substitution of "Ai, ai!" for "Ay, ay," in a line of 'The Cyclops,'

Ai, ai! I have escaped the Trojan toils,

and that of "Felsensee" for "Felunsee," in a line of the translation of 'Faust,' are manifest improvements for which we are duly grateful.

Where the commentary ceases to be critical and becomes explanatory, blunders are by no means uncommon. Thus, in a note, Vol. II. p. 601, we read—

"I do not know who Mary was: possibly the same person who is referred to in the phrase 'the vile female who destroyed Mary'—which phrase occurs in a letter from Shelley to Hogg, dated the 8th of May, 1811, printed in 'Hogg's Life,' Vol. I., p. 370."

"Mary," in the letter to Mr. Hogg, is clearly Queen Mary, and "the vile female who destroyed her" Queen Elizabeth.

Mr. Rossetti has, in our opinion, mistaken his vocation in undertaking the rôle of commentator. Still, there can be no doubt that he has pointed out a considerable number of errors in the existing text; his book therefore cannot fail to have a certain value in the eyes of future editors, and of readers who are fond of textual criticism.

*Alfred the Great.* By Thomas Hughes, M.P. (Macmillan & Co.)

Just before Alfred succeeded to the throne England was undoubtedly in as bad a condition as she could be, between famine on one side

and the Danes on the other. Of the two miseries, perhaps the Danes were the more tolerable: often as they were beaten they were irrepressible, and altogether England was not much the worse for the last circumstance; perhaps very much the better. At Nottingham, where the Danes first tasted of Alfred's quality, they rooted themselves in spite of sword and fire. Some of them found their way to the hearts of Saxon maidens, and that part of our Midland race is nothing the weaker in brains or muscle for the miscegenation. All honour be to Alfred for his achievements, but to extinguish the Dane was more than even he could do. The story of the two does not end with any battle gained by either, however decisive the victory may seem, and we must read on till we come to Edmund Ironside, and find that formidably named king giving up half England to Canute. Mr. Hughes has written a readable book on the popular hero; but he incenses the national king somewhat profusely, and when the heavy vapour floats away, some of the romantic, if not of the heroic, floats off with it. The burning of the neatherd's cakes, and the entry in disguise into the Danish camp are regarded as myths; but they are as probable as many of the incidents which look like truth, and for that matter are that which they resemble.

Mr. Hughes's plan is original, and not without its advantages, where they are not abused. He heads each chapter with a text, and illustrates it by the particular portion of the biography which follows. Thus, the chapters combine history, a sermon, and a lecture. In this combination Mr. Hughes has, no doubt, considered that he could best fit his volume for the series of which it is a part, namely, the *Sunday Library*. Where he confines himself to personal detail he is as amusing as Asser, which is no slight praise on our part; but we think he goes beyond his limits when a sermon is applied by way of comment; and he overleaps his legitimate bounds still further when he plunges into politics, especially those of the present and even of a future time. The Civil War in America, and the irresistible tendencies of democracy, may be as he has described them; but they have nothing in common with Alfred's story, though great ingenuity is shown by Mr. Hughes in connecting them. Moreover, eloquent as the author is on the wickedness and infidelity of the present time, we think the eloquence in a great degree misspent, for while it is worthy of every respect, it is mistakenly used. Much of what is set down as unbelief is really an earnest search after truth, and an earnest desire to hold fast by it when found. We see little to admire in Alfred, who, when troubled by a disease which was evidently a thorn in the flesh, prayed that it might be removed to where it would less trouble him! It reminds us of the Turkish villagers who, when they have the plague amongst them, beset the prophet with prayers to be good enough to remove it to the next village.

Setting aside hero-worship, every other degree of homage, stopping only short of that, may fairly be rendered to Alfred. Too much of the former, or indeed any of it, will tend, in spite of history and evidence, to make Alfred almost as visionary as Arthur has become. It were to be regretted if Alfred were to be idealized into a faultless monster, and made into the

hero of any fanciful creation that the highest skill could accomplish. Let us not forget that if he vanquished the Danes more than once, they, on the other hand, gave him as often an unquestionable defeat, and compelled him to agree to a very humiliating treaty. He is none the less a valiant soldier. Before Nottingham, at Wilton, afterwards on the seas, again on land, in many a fight before that at Ethandune, he was a patriot of whom we may be reasonably proud; but even Ethandune left the old enemy with a large portion of England in his power. Alfred effected as brilliant victories at a later period; but his real merit is less connected with the battles in which he was present than with his works of peace,—a peace which, no doubt, he gloriously conquered. His wisdom, his justice, his love of learning, his far-sightedness, his lovable disposition, his desire to do good and to make that good permanent, all these raise him higher above his contemporaries than his persistent valour in battle. He was but fifty-two years old when he died, in 901; but he had then done enough to make his name live. "Although," says Sir James Macintosh, "it be an infirmity of every nation to ascribe their institutions to the contrivance of a man rather than to the slow action of time and circumstances, yet the selection of Alfred by the English people as the founder of all that was dear to them, is surely the strongest proof of the deep impression left on the minds of all of his transcendent wisdom and virtue." This is indisputable and without exaggeration. As the Saxon Chronicle writes of him, "He was king over the whole English nation,—except that part which was under the dominion of the Danes." This, too, is indisputable, for it is the exact truth, bearing with it both history and moral.

We hoped to have heard something definite from Mr. Hughes with regard to Alfred's present resting-place. We know that he was first buried at Winchester; that he was then removed to Hyde, "and there rested till the Reformation, when the royal tombs were broken open at the dissolution of the monastery." Bishop Fox, however, collected the royal bones of various kingly personages who had long lain in those tombs, and, properly identified, they were replaced in Winchester Cathedral. Waller's Puritan soldiers, in 1642, dealt with the dust of kings in the cathedral as the *sans-culottes* did with that of the monarchs in St. Denis: "When the first excitement of the troops," says Mr. Hughes, "had cooled down, what were left of the bones of our early kings were reverently collected and carried to Oxford and lodged in a repository building next the public library." We hoped to hear from Mr. Hughes something more. Two years ago, Mr. Harford Mellor asserted that he had discovered Alfred's burial-place at Hyde; and that the royal remains were then lying in the gilt mortuary over the chancel of Hyde parish church. Two leaden plates, bearing the king's name, were said to have been found on the spot, and were then in the hands of the vicar, the Rev. Mr. Williams. In a second edition, perhaps, Mr. Hughes will satisfy antiquarians whether the relics of the king be at Hyde or at Oxford, or if their whereabouts can be so confidently fixed as to defy dispute. This question is of national interest.



*Gustave Bergenroth: a Memorial Sketch.* By W. C. Cartwright, M.P. (Edinburgh, Edmonston & Douglas.)

THOUGH they differed widely in aim and intellectual characteristics, Mr. Buckle and Mr. Bergenroth resemble each other in fate. Like the historian of civilization in England, who perished some eight years ago at Damascus, after accumulating a mass of materials for the work of which he was allowed to give us no more than some introductory chapters, the German explorer of archives died on the threshold of an undertaking, when he had demonstrated his ability for its achievement by labour that drew applause from a select body of admirers.

Born on the 26th of February, 1813, at Marggrabowa, an unimportant town in a remote corner of East Prussia, where his father for several years filled the office of chief magistrate of the district tribunal, and educated for the law and official life at Königsberg, where a rare combination of mental, physical and moral endowments raised him to a position of supremacy over the students of his time, Gustave Bergenroth made in the earlier stages of his career satisfactory advances to social influence and prosperity. Only twenty-three years of age, when he was appointed Auscultator at the Königsberg Tribunal, he had not completed his twenty-seventh year when he became Referendary to the Court at Köslin in Pomerania,—an office which he vacated in 1843, on his promotion to the post of Assessor to the High Court of Berlin. Thus far his course was encouraging, if not brilliant; but he was destined to win no higher prize in the service of his country. A singularly handsome man, whose mental vigour was equalled by the force of his athletic frame, and the influence of whose connexions would have secured a certain measure of governmental recognition for an aspirant of ordinary parts, he lacked one qualification for official success—political orthodoxy. By instinct, education, and a temper that precluded him from a course of prudent compromises with his principles, the Assessor of the High Court was a politician whose associates, like his views, were of an extreme school of radicalism: and he lived in days when no official could openly sympathize with liberal opinions and escape the resentment of authority. Nor can it be affirmed that the Prussian authorities acted on bare suspicion or trivial provocation. That Bergenroth took part in the actual fighting of March, 1848, does not appear; but his pen contributed largely to the excitement which resulted in outbreak; he had narrowly escaped with his life from the charge made by the Dragoon Guards in front of the palace, and after assisting in the establishment of the Democratic Club, he edited the prominent radical organ of Berlin. This was enough to justify the action of his superiors, who, in the reactionary fever which followed upon revolutionary panic, took a convenient opportunity of diminishing Bergenroth's ability to occasion them further embarrassment. The Minister of Justice ordered that the troublesome Assessor of the Supreme Court should be transferred from Berlin to the inferior court at Wittstock. That the sentence was a humiliation which Bergenroth would endure, though the relinquishment of official employment would

plunge him in the anxieties of urgent poverty, no one familiar with the man for a moment imagined; but those who best knew the particulars of his political activity during the revolutionary crisis and after the subsidence of popular agitation were less disposed to exclaim against the harshness of the minister than to express surprise that, having determined to punish him, the Government should have dealt with him so leniently. Yet, whatever his indiscretions, Mr. Bergenroth belonged to the class of offenders whom no society can punish without doing serious injury to itself. A little more forbearance on the part of his superiors, and the Berlin Assessor, after honestly accommodating himself to political conditions too powerful for resistance, would have enriched and illustrated his native land by the intellect which was driven to seek a congenial field of enterprise in an alien country.

Several years elapsed after his withdrawal from the Prussian service before Mr. Bergenroth formed in London the associations which resulted in his prosecution of the inquiries that have given him a place in literature. Acting at the request of a number of democratic fellow-sufferers, who had conceived the notion of founding an agricultural settlement in California, he made an expedition in 1850 to San Francisco, where he was an unwilling assistant in establishing the first of the Vigilance Committees, and whence, after enduring disease and privation in various forms, he returned to his native land to ascertain that the enthusiasts at whose request he had crossed the Atlantic had greatly changed their views and purposes. "Some had come to terms with the ruling powers, others had simply lost heart; in a word, the original association had become disintegrated, and there was no longer any bond of common action for those who before had been partners in enthusiastic aims." The next few years were passed by Bergenroth in European travel and in studies which, though desultory, prepared him for the labours that occupied his most industrious and profitable days. In 1856, just thirteen years before his death, he arrived in England, bent on gathering materials in the Record Office for the accomplishment of a projected history of the Tudors. How he sustained himself in London for the next three or four years Mr. Cartwright omits to tell us precisely. That his means were straitened and precarious we infer from several passages of the narrative; but, having regard to his sedulous application to researches that cannot have yielded immediate remuneration, we presume that the resolute and ascetic student had some private source of revenue. Anyhow, he plodded steadily onwards, examining papers at the Record Office and writing occasionally in magazines and journals, till, in the summer of 1860, he went to Simancas, where his discoveries in the archives of Spain decided him to relinquish his scheme for a history of the Tudors in favour of a grander and more comprehensive subject—the history of Charles the Fifth. To Baron Schleinitz, the Prussian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Bergenroth was chiefly indebted for permission to pursue his investigations in the ancient Castle, which Charles the Fifth and Philip the Second converted into a storehouse for the archives of their vast empire. How the student established himself in the wretched little village which henceforth became his residence, —how he mended with needle and thread the

canvas hangings of the comfortless room which served him as a private study,—and how he overcame by patience and tact, and the aid of diplomatic supporters, the opposition of keepers and sub-keepers, who resented his curiosity about secrets which, in their opinion, none but a Spaniard had any right to trouble his head about,—may be ascertained from Mr. Cartwright's narrative, or the numbers of the *Athenæum*, to which Bergenroth sent accounts of his doings. At the time when those communications appeared in our columns, the Master of the Rolls was looking for a person qualified to make a Calendar of the State Papers relating to English history contained in the depository of archives at Simancas; and Lord Romilly's judgment was not at fault when he inferred from the tone and texture of the letters that our correspondent was the man for the task. Having put himself in communication with Bergenroth, the Master of the Rolls despatched Mr. Brewer to Simancas to ascertain on the spot what access the German student had obtained to the secret archives, and whether it would be advisable for the English Government to secure his services. Mr. Brewer reported favourably. "In Simancas," he wrote to Lord Romilly, "all is as primitive, as native, and as shameless as in the days of Adam. None of the decencies of life are to be found there—not any, not so much as would be found in the poorest village in France—I say nothing of England. Simancas is a collection of wretched hovels, half-buried in dust and sand. There is not a good house in the place. The one in which Mr. Bergenroth lives belongs to a farm bailiff, consists of two storeys, all the rooms of plaster and the floors of brick. No fireplace in any of the rooms, and as the winter is very intense here from November to February, and the walls full of holes, nothing but the strongest desire to do service to history could reconcile any man to so much hardship; and Mr. B., in speaking of his residence there, does not exaggerate when he calls it the life of a hermit, and complains of his total isolation. I cannot but admire the perseverance and resolution which could set at defiance so many personal inconveniences, to say nothing of other obstructions, especially as Mr. B. undertook all, in the first instance, from his sole desire to advance the study of English history, without any prospect of remuneration for his labours." On this testimony the Master of the Rolls effected an arrangement with Mr. Bergenroth, by which the latter received a salary of 400*l.* a year for exertions which abundantly repaid the outlay of our Government, whilst they were providing the explorer with information for the great historic work which was no more than a design at the time of his death. Thus furnished with a material basis for operations, Mr. Bergenroth grappled with and overcame a series of obstacles to the achievement of his purpose.

On days when the Castle was closed to him the explorer laboured at the interpretation of ciphers, and the prosecution of studies requisite for the solution of the historical puzzles which every fresh day's work over original papers brought before him. Nor was it at Simancas alone that he ferreted for truth through masses of documents. He frequently made rapid journeys from the chief scene of his industry to Madrid, Brussels, Paris, in each of which capitals he employed copyists,

whose indolence caused him constant irritation, whilst their carelessness occasioned him daily annoyance and countless perplexities. "I have spared no money," he wrote from Madrid to the Master of the Rolls in the summer of 1864, "to get the best copyists in Paris. I have paid this winter, in Paris alone, 1222 francs, or nearly 49*l.*, for copies. The ciphered despatches and the French papers are well copied, but the Spanish transcripts are so imperfect that I must once more compare them with the originals. . . . I am now working as hard as I can: I have not been a single night out since I am in Madrid. I am not working alone; we are now four persons engaged in this work in Madrid. In Simancas two copyists are working for me: they are lazy fellows it is true, but I cannot change their nature. I employ in Paris still two other copyists, and in Brussels one, and now perhaps already two." It was thus that he produced the volumes concerning which Mr. Cartwright observes regretfully, "The single literary work of any compass Bergenroth had lived to accomplish was the editing of several volumes in the series of State Paper Calendars in course of issue under direction of the Master of the Rolls. But volumes containing abstracts of State Papers, however precious these may be, and with however striking Introductions they may be prefaced, never can become popular reading."

The life of the scholar, who withdrew to a miserable village, where he contracted a fever which put an end to his existence in the February of last year, is necessarily deficient in the materials for a biography. The most important part of his history lies in the volumes which, as Mr. Cartwright says, can never attain popularity; and with respect to the other sides of his personal career the memoir says little. Mr. Cartwright has done well in making no attempt to disguise the meagreness of his materials by superfluous diction, and he is to be thanked for gathering into the memoir, which would otherwise have appeared almost too brief for separate publication, those of Bergenroth's writings that are most likely to interest the general reader,—such as the essay on Wat Tyler, the story of Queen Joanna, told in the Introduction to the supplementary volume of the Calendar of Spanish papers, the remarks on the Ciphered Despatches in the Archives of Simancas, and the article entitled 'Vigilance Committees,' which the author contributed to *Household Words* in 1856. By no means the least noteworthy of the writings thus brought together in the memoir is Bergenroth's heretofore unpublished abstract of the extraordinary and startling document which purports to be a narrative of Don Carlos's fate by his confessor, Fray Juan de Avila; the manuscript, however, which Bergenroth perused was only a transcript of the original document,—“A transcript made in Madrid on the 8th of July, 1681, and attested by Don Julian Martinez de Avellano, Knight of the Order of Calatrava.” Knowledge of the mendacity of the secret literature of Spain, of course, disposed Bergenroth to read this astounding paper with strong suspicion. “Such a story as this,” he wrote, “is not easy to invent. I must, however, add that I have only just now finished reading the history or memoir, and have not yet formed a definite opinion about its trustworthiness.” Before he could arrive at a posi-

tive judgment Bergenroth expired at Madrid. That the unnatural conduct imputed to Philip the Second by the narrator is a reason for declaring the document spurious or false, no one familiar with the King's nature is likely to urge: he was capable of murdering his own son in cold blood for far lighter offences than the crimes charged against Don Carlos.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*Notes on Burgundy.* By Charles Richard Weld. Edited by his Widow. (Longmans.)

This volume does not require the reminder on the title-page that the author has passed away from amongst us to ensure a welcome. Mr. Weld was descended from the Protestant branch of the Welds, of Lulworth Castle, Dorsetshire. The first Protestant ancestor in the reign of Elizabeth obtained preferment in the Church, but in process of time became a Nonconformist, resigned his two livings and went to America, where some of his descendants still remain. His son came back to England in the time of Cromwell; went with him to Ireland as his chaplain, and in 1660 settled in Blarney Castle, in Cork, and received large grants of land. They seem to have been an impulsive race of men. One of Mr. Weld's ancestors literally died on the floor of the Irish House of Commons, of which he was a member, from breaking a blood-vessel whilst engaged in a vehement discussion. Another, who was governor of Galway, having received an order from Dublin Castle which offended him, mounted his horse at Eyre Court Castle, in the county of Galway, and rode eighty miles to Dublin, where he demanded an audience from the Lord Lieutenant, to whom he spoke his mind with so much emphasis, that he fell down dead—all booted, spurred and covered with the mud of his furious ride. Another of Charles Weld's uncles, a midshipman, who was said by Nelson to be “one of the bravest boys he ever saw,” made his escape, with two brother middies, from a French prison during the war, in a way that excited admiration at the time; and another uncle led two forlorn hopes. The descendant of such a family was bound to be remarkable. Born in 1813, he was taken when seven years old by his parents to France. They resided at Dijon in an old chateau; and the last journey he ever made, just before the close of his life, was to revisit these scenes of his childhood. His father died when Mr. Weld was eleven years old, and his father's only brother shortly afterwards. After the loss of these relations, he had to make his own way in the world. He did many things—amongst others, wrote a History of the Royal Society, which was much praised. He was a barrister and for some time assistant secretary to the Royal Society. But Charles Weld himself was better than anything he ever did. He possessed intelligence, and the pleasant spirit that pervaded his books and “vacation tours” made them charming. He died the sudden death that seems to have been the destiny of his house. In the course of delivering a lecture at Bath, in the month of January last, he was struck down by heart disease; for a few days he seemed to rally; but other attacks followed, and whilst engaged in preparing the MS. for this volume of ‘Notes on Burgundy,’ he passed away. The book is extremely pleasant and interesting, and deals with scenes and places which are out of the beaten track of tourists.

*Patrañas; or, Spanish Stories, Legendary and Traditional.* By the Author of ‘Traditions of Tirol.’ (Griffith & Farran.)

A BUNDLE of popular broadside legends and romances, badly printed on coarse sugar-paper, may safely be taken as representing the originals of ‘Patrañas.’ The same well-worked vein can be traced back to the founts from which sprang *Pilpay*, the *Gesta Romanorum*, the *Tuscan Decameron*, the *French Contes*, the *Hundred Merry Tales of Saucy Beatrice*, the *English Jests* and *Merry Conceits*, and the *Libro de Patronio*. These Castilian broadsides will be recognized in many

instances as selections from the general stock, altered, adapted and improved, as it seemed best to the story-teller of the period who edited the sugar-paper originals. The *Patrañas* embrace legendary and traditional literature from the days of Carlo Magno to those of the famous Maid of Saragossa who lived, loved, and was happy ever afterwards, when the ex-Queen of Spain first mounted the throne of her ancestors. This collection has been made with judgment, the translation, so far as memory will permit us to test it, is faithful, and renders into equivalent English much quaint, dry humour, smacking of the racy Andaluz as well as of the more solid and severe Castilian. Carlo Magno is depicted by Mr. E. Corbould as prettiness personified, the Moorish princess lovely, but not Moorish. Charlemagne rides a noble charger; the rescued lady reclining before him, her tiny head resting on his bosom,—the Giant's head slung at saddle-bow: a true ‘Jack the Giant Killer’ trophy. We commend this little book to young and old; the stories are well chosen and effective.

*The Good St. Louis and his Times.* By Mrs. Bray. (Griffith & Farran.)

THIS pretty book will be an excellent gift-book. It is carefully written. Mrs. Bray tells us she has spared no pains to do her work well; and she has succeeded in arranging her story with its mass of details in a creditable manner. She gives a list of her authorities, and she has brought her work into a manageable compass. The style is quiet, without any straining after eloquence or effect. There is a scarcity of dates; the reader who has not got them at his own finger-ends will spend much time and more patience in hunting them up and picking them out of the crowd of incidents which smother them. Mrs. Bray only aspires to compile and compress from larger works, and her book will fill a useful niche in school libraries.

*Le Megha Duta, ou Le Nuage Messenger.* Traduit du Sanscrit en Français, avec un Commentaire, par le Colonel Henry Aimé Ouvry, C.B., M.R.A.S. (Williams & Norgate.)

AN English translation of the same poem by the same author was published in 1868, and was reviewed at the time in these columns. It is unnecessary to add to what was then said more than a word of congratulation to the author on the felicity with which he has rendered the Sanskrit into French. The translation is dedicated to the Emperor. We regret to observe a sprinkling of typographical errors, and among them *n* and *u* repeatedly interchanged erroneously. In page 1 occurs *vent dire* for *veut dire*,—at page 5 *ou moins* for *au moins*,—at page 16 *to ombre* for *ton ombre*,—at page 19 *roncoulement* for *roncoulement*,—at page 42 “*flocous*,”—at page 47 a Greek sentence is erroneously printed,—at page 28 occurs *un apparence* for *une*. The note at page 1 is unnecessary, for the root *bhuj* means “to endure,” as well as “to eat.” We wish that the author would write Ratanpur, Gangá, Jamná, Yamuná, Yak and Siddhah, instead of Ruttanpur, Gunga, Jumna, Yamuna, Yák, Siddah. At page 56 Marthali and Maithali should be Maithili.

*The Sunset Land; or the Great Pacific Slope.* By the Rev. J. Todd, D.D. (Hodder & Stoughton.)

THIS is a very stupid and bad book. The author considers that it is his mission to write of the future of California, so he prints future in capital letters by way of impressing us. His phraseology is a wonderful and fearful thing: speaking of a sea-lion, for instance, he says that “he made a great splashing when he dove”; and when he describes the East his word for it is “the Orient.” Dr. Todd's science is as strange as his language; for instance, he says that an ice-berg is a bit a glacier which has slid into the sea.

*Burke's Peerage and Baronetage for 1870.* (Harrison.)

THIS thirty-second edition of Sir Bernard Burke's *Peerage* seems to be as good as the former editions, which we have noticed year by year. The armorial ensigns have been re-engraved, and are more clear



and sharp in their outlines than has been the case of late.

We have on our table *The Nicomachean Ethics of Aristotle*, newly translated into English by R. Williams, B.A. (Longmans).—*God in History*, by C. C. J. Baron Bunsen, Vol. III. (Longmans).—*Records of the late London Fire-Engine Establishment*, by Capt. E. M. Shaw (Wilson).—*Arthur's Picturesque Views of Leamington, Warwick, Stratford, Kenilworth, &c.* (Leamington, Arthur).—*Twelve Views of Leamington* (Leamington, Arthur).—*The Analogy of the Faith*, by H. T. Adamson, B.D. (Hamilton).—*Councils, Ancient and Modern*, by W. H. Rule, D.D. (Hodder & Stoughton).—*The Establishment: a Satire*, by an Archdeacon (Hotten).—*A Guide to the Churches of London and its Suburbs for 1870*, by C. Mackeson (Metzler).—*Handbook for Nurses for the Sick*, by Z. P. Veitch (Churchill).—*The First French Book*, by A. Havet (Simpkin).—*The Conjugating Dictionary of all the French Verbs*, by F. Lefranc, B.A. (Dulau).—*Lessons on Elocution and Good Reading for Girls*, by A. K. Isbister, M.A., LL.B. (Longmans).—*Oxford Reading-Book for Little Children*, by the Author of 'Mademoiselle Mori' (Clarendon Press).—*Oxford Reading-Book for Junior Classes*, by the Author of 'Mademoiselle Mori' (Clarendon Press).—*The Young Potato Roasters* (Seeley).—*The Little Woodman*, by Mrs. Sherwood (Seeley).—*Dick and his Donkey* (Seeley).—*Around de la Lune*, by Jules Verne (Paris, Hetzel).—*On God's Spiritual Revelations to Man*, a Sermon, by the Right Rev. Dr. Temple, Lord Bishop of Exeter (Manchester, Heywood). Also the following pamphlets: *Geography in its Relation to History*, by W. Hughes (Longmans).—*Pantagraphy, a Perfect System of Shorthand*, by J. Beale (Nottingham, Stevenson).—*Authorized Report of the Educational Conference held at Leeds* (Longmans).—*National Education and the Conscience Clause*, by the Rev. M. Shaw, M.A. (Longmans).—*The Education of the People*, by E. Jenkins (Stanford).—*Report of the Chief Officer of the Metropolitan Fire Brigade*.—*The Englishwoman's Review of Social and Industrial Questions* (Trübner).—*Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal*, edited by the Honorary Secretaries (Calcutta, Lewis).—*The World, the Press, and the Poets: a Pasquinade* (Moxon).—*The Bards and Authors of Cleveland and South Durham*, by G. M. Tweddell, Part IX. (J. R. Smith).—*Where not to Immigrate*, compiled by A. Carr (T. Cooper).

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

*Theology.*  
Bunsen's God in History, Vol. 3, 8vo. 12/6 cl.  
Conybeare & Howson's St. Paul's Life & Epistles, new edit. 9/6 cl.  
Daily Prayer Book for Families, ed. by Dr. Stoughton, 5/6 cl.  
Guthrie & Blackie's Saving Knowledge, add. to Young Men, 3/6  
Hacynthe's (Father) Discourses on various Occasions, 6/6 cl.  
Lee's Studies in Church History, cr. 8vo. 10/6 cl.  
Lindsay's (Lord) Ecumenicity and the Church, 8vo. 6/6 cl.  
Richardson's The Works and Word of God, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.  
Ritual (The) of the Altar, ed. by Rev. O. Shipley, 12mo. 5/6 cl.  
Royal Supremacy (The), ed. by B. A. Heywood, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.  
Wilson's Preparation for the Lord's Supper, 1/6 (Routledge).  
*Philosophy.*  
Fichte's Exposition of the Science of Knowledge, by Kroeger, 6/6  
*Law.*  
Looseby's Bankruptcy and Debtors' Acts, 1869, cr. 8vo. 7/6 cl.  
*Fine Arts.*  
Jarves's Art Thoughts, &c., cr. 8vo. 7/6 cl.  
*History.*  
Noyes's History of American Socialisms, 8vo. 18/6 cl.  
*Geography.*  
Gazetteer (The) of England & Wales ('Useful Library'), 1/6  
*Philology.*  
Havet's First French Book, 12mo. 1/6 cl.  
Liddell and Scott's Greek and English Lexicon, new edit. 36/6  
Morgan's Key to Morrell's Grammar and Analysis, cr. 8vo. 4/6  
Smith's (Dr. W.) Initia Græca, Part 3, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.  
*Science.*  
Field's The Greenhouse as a Winter Garden, 12mo. 3/6 cl.  
Robertson's Daily Readings in Natural Science, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.  
*General Literature.*  
Addison's Essays from the 'Spectator', cr. 8vo. 5/6 cl.  
Austen's (Jane) Novels, 5 vols. 12mo. 10/6 the set, cl.  
Beste's Now-a-Days; or, Courts, Courtiers, &c., 2 vols. 8vo. 24/6  
Burr's The Creation, and other Original Poems, 12mo. 4/6 cl.  
Church Ballads on the Festivals, sq. 3/6 cl.  
Clergy List, 1870, 8vo. 10/6 cl.  
Dubois's Artistic Cookery, illust. 42/6 cl.  
Duckworth's Cromwell; a Drama, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.  
Fernandez's Henry's Mental Arithmetic, 18mo. 1/6 cl.

Fruits of Toil in the London Missionary Society, 4to. 6/6 cl.  
Goldsmith's Poetical Works, 'Aldine Poets,' 12mo. 1/6 cl.  
Hagar, by Author of 'St. Olave's,' 3 vols. cr. 8vo. 31/6 cl.  
Holme's The Lost Father, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.  
Illustrated London News, Vol. 55, folio, 18/6 cl.  
Lander's (A.) Iphigene; a Poem, 12mo. 3/6 cl.  
Once a Week, New Series, Vol. IV., Aug. '69 to Jan. '70, 6/6  
Our Faith, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.  
Parr's Maurice and Eugénie de Guérin, cr. 8vo. 6/6 cl.  
Red as a Rose is She, 3 vols. cr. 8vo. cl.  
Saddle and Sirolo; by 'Druid,' 'North Part,' cr. 8vo. 5/6  
Skryring's Builders' Prices, 1873, 8vo. 4/6 cl.  
Sonnenschein & Co.'s Science & Art of Arithmetic, Part I, 2/6  
Taylor's (Winifred) Story of Two Lives, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.  
Rupert Rochester, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.  
Teetgen's Fruit from Devon, and other Poems, cr. 8vo. 4/6 cl.  
Thom's Irish Almanack and Directory, 1870, 8vo. 15/6 cl.  
Townsend's Every-Day Book of Modern Literature, cr. 8vo. 7/6  
Waverley Novels, Centenary Edit., 'Guy Mannering,' 3/6 cl.

OXFORD REFORMS.

Oxford, Jan. 26, 1870.

THE Term which is just commencing seems likely to present to the University more than the usual number of topics of interest. The abolition of tests we may consider as practically settled; it seems only to depend on Mr. Gladstone to fix the day when the question is to come before Parliament. Probably no further action will be taken in Oxford in the matter, with the exception of a conservative protest. It is now too late for a compromise: it was, indeed, reported last Term, that the Nicene Creed was to be proposed as the test of the future, in the place of the present Declaration of Conformity to the Articles and Liturgy of the Church of England; but it is impossible to conceive that any section of the University would adopt so unpromising a platform. It would meet with no favour from Liberals, either in Oxford or in Parliament; even in the House of Lords it would scarcely find many supporters. For the test question is one of principle: the point at issue is not whether non-conformists ought to be relieved of a practical grievance, but whether the emoluments of the University ought in any way to depend on a man's religious beliefs.

Perhaps next in importance is the alteration in the Final Classical Schools, which has for some time been under discussion. There exists a strong feeling among many influential members of the University against the results of the present school of *Literæ Humaniores*. We have the authority of the Rector of Lincoln for believing that our system tends to make men shallow, to promote "Sophistic" rather than Philosophy; to encourage an unthinking adoption of the theories of this or that teacher, instead of a careful personal investigation. The combination of philosophy, history, and scholarship into a single school is condemned as subversive of a thorough knowledge of any of them, and at variance with the tendency of modern study to specialize its subjects.

The school is also attacked on other grounds by that section of the University who recognize Dr. Pusey as their leader. They say that the philosophy which is taught among us gradually and imperceptibly undermines all religious belief, and they hope, if any change is made, to be able to attract to other studies the most promising men, among whom this school is at present by far the most popular. Our system is further imperilled by the dissatisfaction of the leading scholars of the University, who resent the subordinate position which their subject holds: they tell us, and with great justice, that a good scholar finds but little encouragement; that it is only the select few who are stimulated by the hope of the Hertford and Ireland; that Moderations are a mere examination in school-work, and that in the Final Schools the most finished scholarship contributes but little towards success.

Under these divers attacks it seems probable that our present system will fall. What will be substituted for it it is premature to conjecture; possibly a series of separate schools—one of Philosophy, ancient and modern, another of Scholarship, while Ancient History would naturally take its place with Modern in a third school, leaving the Law to expand itself into a further school of its own.

Another proposal has lately been brought forward which will, if carried, greatly affect the future of the University. Hitherto we have had three terms a-year of eight weeks each, and all public examina-

tions have taken place every six months. The disadvantages of this latter arrangement are obvious; it involves a reckless waste of labour on the part of college tutors, since with a batch of men who pass in December they have to recommence the very subject on which they had been lecturing to those who passed in June. This one fact is by itself quite a sufficient reason for some change; though others point in the same direction. The frequency of the examinations makes men careless in their preparation for them; and the examiners, who are for the most part college tutors, find their regular work very much interfered with. Hence there is a very general feeling in favour of holding our examinations only once a year. This, however, is a minor point in the general proposal; for at the same time there has been a growing dissatisfaction on the part of the teachers of the University, by reason of the "lamentable" idleness of the students during the summer term. Nuneham parties and cricket matches, balls and suppers, have taken the place of the college lecture and the midnight oil. Expensive entertainments involve the givers of them in debt, and destroy all chance of work.

These evils are especially prevalent during the end of May and the beginning of June, and this idle time accordingly suggested itself as very suitable for the annual examinations; all college work would then cease about the middle of May, and no student would remain in Oxford unless he were actually engaged in the ordeal of an examination. But this arrangement necessitated some further change, as there would be no room for a summer term between Easter and the middle of May. This led to an alteration being proposed which would completely change the life of Oxford.

Instead of our present three terms of eight weeks, it is suggested that we should hereafter have only two of twelve weeks each—one from September to the middle of December, the other from the beginning of February to the middle of May, leaving a week for Easter. Several important advantages are represented as resulting from the change. Two continuous courses of twelve weeks' lectures are thought to be more productive of permanent effect than three courses of eight weeks. Poor men will have their travelling expenses reduced; the idle man, who now treats Oxford as a pleasant lounge, will be discountenanced, if not suppressed; the University, it is said, will become a place for real work, and not for the cultivation of desultory reading and superficial accomplishments. But it is very doubtful whether these brilliant hopes will be realized if the proposal is carried out; for, in the first place, it is an attempt to cure idleness by legislation, a process which generally fails, for the innate love of athletics and amusements will reappear in some other and perhaps less healthy form. Oxford, again, will be deserted just when the classic walks and shady groves of the Academy are beginning to have that indescribable charm, the memory of which clings to men all through their life; and this will be a real and substantial loss; indeed, the time of residence at Oxford will be only during those months when it is damp and gloomy and unhealthy, when the constant floods change the country round into a continuous lake, or a malarious swamp. It is a questionable advantage to take a step tending to drive away from the University a considerable proportion of the class who now resort to it, and making the time spent there as disagreeable as possible to those who remain.

But as term goes on, I look forward to some modification of the scheme which will secure its advantages without its evils. I think this is quite possible, and I shall hope to discuss it in a future letter. C.

THE SAXONS AND THE CELTS.

In continuation:—

9. The lecturer says that the Norse chiefs long ruled one part of the country, and that Danes occupied all the chief maritime towns. "It is inconceivable that all these conquests should have taken place without a large infusion of Teutonic blood among the Irish people." This can scarcely

be said to be inconceivable when he has given us the example of the Roman rule (No. 3), and of the Norman rule (No. 8). At the utmost, these Danish and Norse contingents only cleared the ground for the later English invasions and conquests, and there is no proof that they are "worth mentioning in an ethnological point of view."

10. The English and Normans, who had intermarried with the Irish, identified themselves with the Celts in name and language. It will be found, if the genealogies are carefully traced, that the English element is very inconsiderable at the present day, as representing the English of the Pale.

11. Prof. Huxley states expressly that he believes "in the immense influence of that fixed hereditary transmission which constitutes a race."

12. In giving effect to the influence of race and of language, the lecturer strictly defines that "in the United States the negroes have spoken English for generations, but no one on that account would call them Englishmen, or expect them to differ physically, mentally or morally from other negroes. As stated, he does not apply this law to English and Irish.

13. It results from all the Professor says, that there is no difference between Gael and Cymry physically, mentally and morally, but he allows that they do speak languages differing as widely as French and Italian. This denial of difference between Gael and Cymry being opposed to the observation of all persons in these islands, Gael, Cymry or English, is not likely to meet with assent when examined.

14. The lecturer gives us a distinct proposition in reference to the representative Irishman, the Tipperary Boy. "I believe that I am affirming no more than there is warranty for if I declare that a native of Tipperary is just as much or as little of an Anglo-Saxon as a native of Devonshire." As seen in No. 7, this means that a Devonshire man and a native of Tipperary are Celts, and the same kind of Celts. If the Devonshire man is a Celt like the Cornish man, then he would be a Cymric Celt and the Tipperary man a Gaelic Celt, which may make a material difference; but there is no ground for assuming the Devonshire man to be a Celt (7). Prof. Huxley applies his theory: "If you want to know why a Tipperary man occasionally 'tumbles' his landlord and a Devonshire man does not, you must seek the cause of the difference in something else than in the presence of Celtic blood in the one and not in the other."

15. If Prof. Huxley has arrived at the conclusion that a Tipperary man and a Devonshire man are of the same race, it is in harmony to find the assertion that English and Irish are the same. He says, "As an ethnologist, I deny that there is sufficient proof of the existence of any difference whatever, except that of language, between Celt and Teuton." As ethnology is a science of observation, it might be thought that Prof. Huxley, as an ethnologist, would refer us to his own observations and our own, having the subject-matter of observation before us. Prof. Huxley does not do so, but he gives "my reason for this seeming paradox." This reason is the statement that Julius Cæsar found the Germani and the Gauls to be tall, blue-eyed, fair-haired and fair-skinned; and the implication is that Julius Cæsar and some other Romans could not see "any clear physical difference between the two stocks," on which many readers of the Commentaries will arrive at a different conclusion. "If what I have to say in a matter of science weighs with any man who has political power, I ask him to believe that the arguments about the difference between Anglo-Saxons and Celts are a mere sham and delusion." Prof. Huxley states that we have absolutely no knowledge of the relative proportions of these two parties in England and in Ireland; but this is because he has assumed that there is in England a larger Celtic area than is commonly believed, and in Ireland a larger infusion of Teutonic blood. Prof. Huxley's assertions lead him to the doctrine that there is no political difference, or ought not to be, between the Englishman and the Irishman, and that no attention ought to be paid to the demands of the friends of the latter to

treat him in conformity with his own or Celtic sympathies. The English and the Irish are the same, says Prof. Huxley; and he considers he has fulfilled Dr. Johnson's condition for dealing with all great questions—"Sir, first clear your mind of cant." At this point it may be sufficient to observe, that as the French are the same as what Prof. Huxley calls the English, namely, Celts and Teutons, which are practically convertible terms, with a basis of Iberian, and only differing from the English in language, then English institutions may be applied bodily to France, or French institutions be imposed upon England. Although Spain has only a traditional infusion of Teutonic blood it is an ethnological equivalent of France and England; and Germany, with or without Celtic blood, is another equivalent. It is most likely Italy must be so regarded on such principles. The Netherlands, Switzerland, and Scandinavia follow, and, consequently, the whole population of Western Europe is ethnologically identical, varying only according to the actual, or rather traditional, proportion of Iberian blood. Such appears to me to be the legitimate statement of the consequences of Prof. Huxley's doctrines, and they must be nakedly stated in order that the utterances of a man of his learning and just authority may be comprehended in their full significance.

16. In the enumeration of Prof. Huxley's statements it is necessary to include in them one which affirms, with regard to "the English nationality," that "it is simply absurd to call it Anglo-Saxon." King Alfred called his people and speech English. After such a denunciation the English will be little surprised to learn that they have new forefathers. "Our Iberic forefathers" are distinctly proclaimed. Prof. Huxley has not proved that any representatives of the Silures exist in Wales; and, on his showing (6), the Celtic element being extirpated in the east of England, the contained Iberian element would also have disappeared. The Iberian element could only have been restored in the English area by a large immigration and intermarriage of Welsh and Irish. Although the Welsh immigrants do occasionally intermarry with the English, there is no proof of any large proportion of the town population of England being descended from the Welsh, although there have long been Welsh colonies in London, Liverpool, Chester, Bristol and Birmingham. As to the Irish colonies, supposing them to proceed from the Iberian districts in Ireland, it is notorious that they do not generally intermarry with the English, but with each other. It will be found on investigation that the present Irish population in our towns, including Irish born in Ireland and Irish born in England, is much less than the total immigration and presumed natural increase. The explanation of this is due to several causes, and one equally operates on Irish and English, and that is the apparent tendency of a town population to extinction. The town populations generally appear to be maintained by migrations from the country, and the town families are only saved from extinction by re-migration to the country. If there is, as is most likely, an Iberian population in Ireland, then it may be assumed to be the result of intermarriage of Iberians with Iberians, a natural selection of survivors from among the mixed marriages. Prof. Huxley states himself to be unable to define what portion is Iberian and what Aryan. One reason is that no attempt has been made seriously to investigate or to apply what knowledge we possess. The higher and middle classes, whose genealogies we possess, are to a great degree separate from the settled agricultural population and under different conditions. The members of these classes freely intermarry from considerations of landed property or money, and to a great extent are a mixed race; and this is apt to mislead us as to the state of the main body of the population. These classes also intermarry with Jews and foreigners. An examination of the pedigrees of these families shows as a general result, in England, the elimination of the Norman element, and the increase of the English element; in Wales the preponderance of the Welsh element, and in Ireland of the Irish element, except

in those families of English descent which intermarry. The older pedigrees appear to give evidence that the upper and middle-class families are exposed to the danger of extinction, and are replaced from the lower strata. The condition of the main part of the agricultural population is different. This is not supplied from any lower stratum, but is self-supporting, and supplies the deficiencies of the town populations and of the upper classes. On the borders of the English population, as on those of Wales for instance, two classes of circumstances are to be witnessed. One is the interlarding and waving to and fro of English and Welsh populations; another is intermarriage. It remains to be proved whether intermarriage produces a permanent population, or whether the mixed population is not kept up by the supply of intermarriages as the town populations are by immigration. It is by the observation of these phenomena that we must ascertain the extension or diminution of the English or Celtic area; but there is this more material fact that we may arrive at, that in Britain the population on the English area is larger and has increased more than on the Celtic area. Looking at statistical probabilities, the proportion of Iberian and Celtic blood in the veins of the population of the English area is small. A remarkable series of facts in connexion with these subjects has not received due notice, and that is the fate of the populations imported into Britain. The usual assumption is, that they constituted proportional additions to the permanent and reproduced population. Of the Romans Prof. Huxley has disposed. Of the Danes it is probable, as suggested by me, that the early Danes were of English affinity and not Norse. Of the Norse Danes, the influence under intermarriage is probably much smaller than the linguistic evidence has induced us to admit. With regard to the Normans, Prof. Huxley has stated the truth that they are practically extinct. Of the large immigration of Flemings there are small permanent results. The Walloons are, like the Normans, practically extinct, and the French Protestant refugees are undergoing that doom. The old Spanish Jews, smaller in number, give evidence of the like tendency. It is sufficient to refer to these circumstances without attempting to explain them.

17. Prof. Huxley states that the Iberians and Aryans are absolutely of different races.

18. He defends the capacity of the Iberians for civilization, and their intellectual and moral powers in comparison with the Aryans. The way in which he puts this is rather loose, and its application to England and Ireland is of little account; but it is of considerable importance in its application to Western Europe and to Europe at large. It is the proposition that the Aryan race is not the only one in Europe which has the capacity for political power.

19. Prof. Huxley expresses an opinion unfavourable to distinctions in the adaptation of institutions to populations. To save time, I refer to No. 15.

20. The lecturer asserts that the experience of the past does not justify treating Ireland differently from Devon. The lecture, professedly ethnological, is distinctly political, and therefore ethnology and politics are intermixed. While it is true, as proposed by Prof. Huxley, that ethnology has of late years exercised a great influence on politics, we must be careful of substituting ethnological science for the science of politics or the practical art of government. This, however, is the tendency of Prof. Huxley's lecture, and this is a reason for considering how far the dogmas of Prof. Huxley are well or ill founded.

This lecture constitutes an important contribution to the discussion of an interesting subject, but its results will be for good or for evil, according as we allow the authority of the Professor to confirm our reason when he is in the right, or to overcome it when he is in the wrong.

HYDE CLARKE.

MR. ALEXANDER HERZEN.

At the end of last week there died at Paris a man who had outlived his work. As the chief of



the Russian Reds, Mr. Herzen was less known to the present generation than, as the editor and proprietor of the *Kolokol* ("The Bell"), he had been known to the last. When the Russian Ministers pressed upon the reigning Tsar at his accession, the desirability of setting free the press, they intended "to put down Herzen," and so thoroughly did they succeed that the circulation of his newspaper, which had at one time been enormous, dwindled away, until last year its very publication was suspended. Under Nicholas, the Russian Revolutionary press of London and Geneva poured hundreds of thousands of its publications into Russia every year; under Alexander, it can hardly be said to exist at all, and a general Liberalism has taken the place of the fanatical Republicanism of Herzen's school. Even among the Nihilists of the Universities Herzen has been almost forgotten, and those of the students who have read his writings affect to think that he is behind his age!

Born at Moscow in 1812, and educated at the University of that town, his brilliant student-career was cut short by his imprisonment in 1834, followed by his exile to the Government of Viatka, in 1835, a banishment from which he returned in 1839. During his stay at St. Petersburg, in 1840, he saw his great enemy the Tsar Nicholas for the only time in his life. One of the pleasures of the Emperor was to attend the masked balls, for which St. Petersburg is famous. This he did in his ordinary uniform; but although no one in the room could fail to recognize him, he insisted upon not the slightest sign being made which could imply that he was there. Herzen, who had only just returned from exile, came suddenly at one of these balls face to face with the Tsar, whom he knew by his gigantic height. Involuntarily he bowed. The Tsar faced round, although he had a lady on his arm, and, drawing himself up, frowned at Herzen in the way in which only Nicholas could frown. He then wheeled back again, and paced down the room with his usual strides. Herzen left the ball at once, but always believed that the Emperor discovered who the offender was, and that his banishment "to Europe" in 1840 was owing to this scene. In 1842 he published, under the pseudonym of 'Iskander' (Turkish for Alexander) a series of letters on 'Dilettanteism in Science.' In 1845 appeared his philosophical work upon Hegelianism, and in 1847 his famous political novel 'Khto Vinavate,'—'Who's to blame?' In 1848 and 1849 he published many novels and philosophical essays, and in 1851 established in London the revolutionary press. The most famous of the works bearing his name, which were circulated in Russia in spite of the efforts of the authorities, were 'The Development of Revolutionary Ideas in Russia,' published in 1851, and the 'Memoirs of the Empress Catherine,' in 1859; but it is probable that Mr. Herzen had a hand in the yet more famous 'Situation Russe,' which bears, however, the name of his fellow-worker Ogaref.

Our concern is with Herzen the writer, rather than with Herzen the revolutionist, but we are tempted to say that, whatever his faults, he was a patriotic Russian, and incapable of the intrigues with foreign powers for the humiliation of his country which have often been laid to his charge. For some years he had lived in the outskirts of Geneva, where he was much respected, but he spent many months of each year at Paris, where, indeed, he died.

#### M. DE PONGERVILLE.

M. DE PONGERVILLE was born at Abbeville, in 1792. He made his reputation by his translation of Lucretius in verse,—a work begun in his eighteenth year, and which cost him ten years' labour. It was published in 1823, and attracted the notice of Louis the Eighteenth. The other works of M. de Pongerville belong mostly to the same branch of literature; they include a translation of Ovid's *Metamorphoses*, and prose translations of the *Æneid* and of 'Paradise Lost.' He was elected a Member of the Academy in 1830, in

place of Lally-Tollendal. He died on Sunday last. The funeral service took place at St.-Germain-des-Près, in the presence of most of the Members of the Academy.

#### M. SAINTE-BEUVE'S LIBRARY.

M. SAINTE-BEUVE'S library is to be sold in a day or two; it numbers nearly 30,000 volumes and possesses considerable interest. M. Sainte-Beuve was a laborious student and an elaborate annotator; the margins of his books are filled with notes written in a beautiful hand, but which almost requires the use of a magnifying glass to read it. In his early days M. Sainte-Beuve was not a severe critic, but he went against the stream. Being rather sneeringly buffeted, he soon learned to say sharp things, and his criticisms became trenchant, so that there is much curiosity, which will not be disappointed, respecting his opinions of his contemporaries. But these posthumous criticisms are not the only attractions which the library possesses; M. Sainte-Beuve's religious opinions are well known, but some of his comments and annotations will prove a little startling. Moreover, the collection contains a certain number of volumes which passed through other hands before they reached M. Sainte-Beuve's, and retain marks of their former masters. Amongst the latter is Châteaubriand, whose annotations appear here and there, and the tone of some of them will probably rather surprise the admirers of that somewhat pompous genius.

#### THE CAMBRIDGE SHAKESPEARE.

Trinity College, Cambridge, Jan. 20, 1870.

I HAVE just received from Messrs. J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia, a prospectus of a new edition of Shakespeare, of which they announce that the first volume, containing 'Romeo and Juliet,' is in the press. It is to be edited by Mr. Horace Howard Furness, but I hope it is the publishers who are responsible for the prospectus, and not the editor.

The prospectus states: "The text will be that of the Cambridge editors, and to the textual notes of that edition will be added the various readings of the following editors: Singer (edd. 1 and 2), Knight (edd. 1 and 2), Campbell, Cornwall, Collier (edd. 1 and 2), Verplanck, Hazlitt, Hudson, Ulrici, Delius, Staunton, Dyce (edd. 1 and 2), White, Chambers, Halliwell, Clarke, and Keightley. . . . To the literary public we beg leave to state that in this work there will be found not only the textual variations of the quartos and folios as given in the Cambridge edition of Messrs. Clarke (*sic*) and Wright, but also the various readings of the different editions since 1821."

In this statement there is a misrepresentation so gross that, whether intentional or not, I feel bound to protest against it. To have the whole of our hard work thus deliberately appropriated is of itself sufficiently aggravating, but not more than might have been reasonably expected. What I complain of is that Messrs. Lippincott & Co., by their prospectus convey the impression that the Cambridge edition contains only the various readings of the quartos and folios, and does not contain the conjectural emendations of the different editors since 1821, whereas it is impossible to open the book at any page without seeing that our plan includes all these. If they choose to print our notes in full, we are powerless to prevent them, but it would be better that they should say so plainly.

WILLIAM ALDIS WRIGHT.

#### Literary Gossip.

DR. ROBERT CHAMBERS is currently reported to have fallen on the stairs of his house and severely injured his ankle. We are glad to be able to say that the report is exaggerated; Dr. Chambers has only sprained his wrist slightly.

MR. DOBSON has forwarded to us a letter of Miss Mitford's, written about three months before her death, which is not included in the

recently published life. In it she speaks of her visit to Hexham in 1806, and of her relations, Miss Mary Mitford, Admiral Mitford and her father's brother William, who lived at Douglas and was as provident as the Doctor himself.

A UNIFORM edition of the poems and imaginative tales of Dr. George MacDonald will appear shortly.

PROF. LIGHTFOOT has been in Rome during the Christmas Vacation, engaged, we believe, in consulting manuscripts.

AN unprinted alliterative Anglo-Saxon poem, called 'Passiones Machabeorum,' is to be edited for the Early English Text Society, by the Rev. Walter W. Skeet, M.A., from five manuscripts, two Cottons in the British Museum, Julius E 7 and D 17; two Corpus ones at Cambridge, Nos. 198 and 303, and one in the Cambridge University Library, li. 1, 33.

PROF. MUNRO, the editor of 'Lucretius,' will give his first lecture at Cambridge during the present term.

WE have received a letter from Mr. James Grant in regard to our review of his 'Memoirs of Sir G. Sinclair.' We quoted a passage in which Mr. Grant states that Lord Palmerston expressed to him an unfavourable opinion of the present French Emperor, and in the quotation we italicized the words "*in private*." Mr. Grant fears this may lead the reader to suppose he betrayed confidence by publishing the remarks.—We had no intention of conveying any such impression, nor did we for a moment believe Mr. Grant capable of a breach of confidence.

A UNIFORM edition of the early Scotch Historians is announced. The 'Scoticronicon' of John Fordun is to be the first of the set, and will be edited by Mr. W. F. Skene, from the Wolfenbüttel MS. The continuations of Fordun by various writers will be given, including one hitherto unpublished, which is wrongly attributed to Bishop Elphinstone. Mr. D. Laing will edit Andrew of Wyntoun, and John Major and Hector Boethius are also promised. English translations and notes will accompany the texts.

THE Indian Government, proceeding in the path of governments engaged in civilizing new populations, has adopted a measure strange to us, but for which there are many precedents. With a view to counterbalance the rumours and false intelligence spread by the native Press in general, it has authorized its employés, English and native, to correspond with a native paper called the *Education Gazette*.

A TRANSLATION of 'Anti-Janus' is announced at Dublin.

MR. TENNYSON'S 'Holy Grail' is published in America at 10 cents, a price that must be more agreeable to the purchasers than to the author.

AT the meeting on the 21st of the Académie des Inscriptions, a paper by M. Émile Burnouf was read, 'On the Harmony between the Theology of the Vedas and the earliest Greek Traditions.'

THE third volume of G. A. Heinrich's 'Histoire de la Littérature Allemande' is announced for March next.

M. LITTRE has published an article on 'Les Origines Organiques de la Morale' in the

*Revue de Philosophie Positive.* The internal sensations, he says, transform themselves in the brain into sentiments, the external into ideas; the latter form science, the former morality. The preservation and propagation of life are the two earliest of the internal sensations.

THE fifth and last volume of M. d'Haussonville's book, 'L'Eglise Romaine et le Premier Empire' has just appeared.

A POSTHUMOUS article by M. Sainte-Beuve on Madame Tastu, the well-known poetess, has been published. It was intended by the author to form part of the *Galerie des Femmes Célèbres*.

A GRAMMAR of the Old-Slave language, by A. Chodzko, with Old-Slave texts, taken mostly from MSS. in the Imperial Library, Paris, and the Boulogne Psalter, has been published at Paris.

PROF. A. WEILL has completed his 'Judaism, its Dogmas and Mission.'

THE second fasciculus of Ebel's edition of Zeuss's great 'Grammatica Celtica' is at press, with large additions and corrections.

MR. BRYANT's translation of Homer will appear in a few days.

WE learn from the *Chicago Scandinaven* that M. Björnsterne Björnson, the well-known tale-writer, intends to visit America in the course of next summer and reading his own stories and poems, as he has been doing in Norway. M. Prévost-Paradol, it is said, purposes to deliver a course of lectures in the United States.

PROF. AGASSIZ's new book on Brazil is almost ready for publication.

DR. JOSEPH BUDENZ, says the *Revue Critique*, has issued at Pesth the first part of his 'Studies on the Ugrian Languages,' dealing with the affixes to nouns which represent our adjectives *our, your, their* (nim, nid, nis), and with their shortening *n*, which he makes a determinative, as well in the demonstrative adjectives as in the determinate conjugation of verbs: *várok, j'attends; várom, je l'attends*.

AN edition of the humorous and satirical pieces of Luigi Tansillo, the Neapolitan poet, has been published, containing a revised text and some hitherto unpublished pieces discovered by Chevalier Volpicella in the National Library at Naples.

'BRUNETTO Latinos, Levnet og Skrifter,' is the title of an octavo volume recently published at Copenhagen by Thor Sundby, to which is appended the *Moralium Dogma Philippi Gualteri ab Insulis, dicti de Castellione*, and Albertanus of Brixen's *Tractatus de Arte Loquendi et Tacendi*. Apart from its literary merits, the book is a favourable specimen of printing in Denmark.

UNRIVALLED and COMBINED ENTERTAINMENTS for the Christmas Holiday Seekers.—Professor Pepper's Lecture on 'A Shocking Jar and the immense Leyden Battery';—'Christmas and its Customs,' by Mr. King. Illustrations: Jovial Old Father Christmas, The Yule Log, The Squire's Seat.—Last Two Weeks of Messrs. Wardrop's Entertainment, 'The Mysteries of Udolpho,' The Ghost Hinson perfected. Three emanating from one. Ghosts innumerable.—The Maximilian Relics.—The American Organ Daily.—Madame Napoli's Mechanical Pictures.—THE ROYAL POLYTECHNIC'S Change for One Shilling.

## SCIENCE

### ANATOMY IN ITALY.

THE editors of 'Archivio per la Zoologia, l'Anatomia e la Fisiologia,' have just brought out the

first volume of a second series, which includes an edition of 100 copies only, illustrated with seventeen well-executed plates. To those who wish to know the progress making in Italy in the branches of science above named, this volume will be particularly interesting. Among the articles are two by Richiardi—on the vascular system of the eye of the fetus, monograph of the family of the Pennatularii (with fourteen plates); one by Canestrini on fishes of Australia; Bonizzi has one on a variety of the species *Gasterosteus aculeatus*; and Ciacio contributes experiments upon the action of certain colouring matters and chemical substances on the Spermatozoa of the frog and the triton. The structural details of the Pennatulæ are remarkably well shown in the lithographic plates.

### THE ISTHMUS OF PANAMA.

THE *Panama Star* says, in reference to the American Government expeditions of exploration, that the choice of route will rather be determined by the question of summit level than by that of harbours. As yet there is no decided opinion as to the best practicable place, and at Panama there is no local knowledge of the Cordillera to the north. Information is dependent on the special expeditions. The Chepo route, partially examined by Mr. Kelly in 1864, will certainly require a tunnel. The Darien route is still imperfectly explored, but a former prefect of Darien states that the Indians of a large town near the head-waters of the Chucunaque go and come from the Atlantic in a few hours, which is an augury for a favourable route. The Panama people of course say their district is the best situation for a canal as well as a railway. The old French Darien Company is again raising its head in Paris and London. As to the Honduras Railway, further north, the Panama people are naturally hostile, and they give unfavourable accounts of its progress, while no details are published in London. The works appear to have been begun.

### SOCIETIES.

ROYAL.—Jan. 20.—Dr. W. A. Miller, V.P., in the chair.—The following papers were read:—'On the Mechanical Performance of Logical Inferences,' by Mr. W. Stanley Jevons. Prof. Jevons was present, and exhibited the machine by which he attempts to do for logic that which is done for arithmetic and mathematics by mechanical contrivances. To give a description of the construction of the machine without a diagram would be scarcely possible. It contains a keyboard, after the fashion of a piano, marked with the letters of the alphabet, and these, being attached to strings, move a series of vertical tablets marked also with letters, and accordingly as these are multiplied or diminished, or made to disappear entirely, so is the logical process exemplified. Mr. Jevons claimed that his machine embodies almost all the powers of Boole's logical system up to problems involving four distinct terms; and that more may be accomplished by multiplying the parts. He was of opinion that it might be usefully employed in the logical classroom to exhibit the complete analysis of any argument or logical problem.—'Preliminary Paper on certain Drifting Motions of the Stars,' by Mr. R. A. Proctor. Mr. Proctor finds that in some parts of the heavens the stars exhibit a well-marked tendency to drift in a definite direction. The parts in which the phenomenon is most apparent are the neighbourhood of the Pleiades and the constellations Gemini, Cancer, Leo and the Great Bear. The German astronomer Mädler came to the conclusion that Alcyone was the great star or central sun round which our system and the whole heavens were revolving; but Mr. Proctor thinks that Perseus, with its remarkable cluster, is more likely to be the centre; that is, if our system has 'a centre cognizable by us.' 'When we remember,' he continues, 'that for every fixed star in the Pleiades there are hundreds in the great cluster in Perseus, the latter will seem the worthier region to be the centre of motion.'—'On Jacobi's Theorem respecting the Relative Equilibrium of a Revolving Ellip-

soid of Fluid, and on Ivory's Discussion of the Theorem,' by Mr. J. Todhunter.

GEOGRAPHICAL.—Jan. 24.—A letter was read from Mr. G. W. Hayward, on account of the Society, in Central Asia. Mr. Hayward had accomplished a successful journey to Yarkand and Kashgar, and stated that he was now preparing for an exploration of the Pamir table-land lying between Eastern and Western Turkestan. The letter was dated from Srinagar, the capital of Kashmir, 17th November, 1869. The traveller had had interviews with the Maharajah and his ministers regarding his project of entering the unknown region beyond their frontier by the Gilgit Valley: the Kashmiries on the frontier had killed a party of the Hunza tribe, and reprisals were expected; and as Mr. Hayward's route lay through the Hunza territory, this had greatly increased his difficulties. He expressed, however, his determination to make the attempt. The President announced that as Mr. Hayward would push forward into the Russian province of Turkestan, he had written a letter to the President of the Imperial Geographical Society to request the favour of his intercession with the Russian Government to secure a welcome for the traveller; he had received a most favourable reply.—A paper was read—'Account of a Visit to Easter Island,' by J. L. Palmer, Esq., R.N.

NUMISMATIC.—Jan. 20.—W. S. W. Vaux, Esq., President, in the chair.—The Council exhibited a selection of coins and medals from the Society's collection. Mr. Vaux made a few remarks, in the course of which he gave a short sketch of the history of the formation of the collection.—Mr. Corkran exhibited a gold quinarius of the Emperor Geta, reading on the obverse P. SEPTIMIUS GETA CAES, and having the head of Geta to the right. On the reverse is the legend NOBILITAS, and a female figure to the left, leaning upon a sceptre and holding the palladium. This quinarius is interesting as being a hitherto unpublished specimen.—Mr. Evans read a paper, communicated by Mr. Neck, 'On some Silver Coins of Edward IV. and V.'—Mr. Arnold communicated a paper 'On some Coins of Cnossus, bearing the word *πόλις*,' in which he considered the question as to whether it is the name of a magistrate or a contraction of *πολιούχος*.

LINNEAN.—Jan. 20.—George Bentham, Esq., President, in the chair.—Col. R. Benson, Messrs. N. L. Austen, F. P. Balkwill, J. Goucher, G. Harrison, C. A. Robinson, E. Taylor and A. Woodward were elected Fellows.—The following papers were read:—'A Revision of the Flora of Iceland,' by C. C. Babington, M.A.—'Contributions to British Muscology,' by S. C. Lindberg, M.A., communicated by Dr. J. D. Hooker, and 'On New British Spiders,' by the Rev. C. P. Cambridge, communicated by J. Salter, Esq.

ETHNOLOGICAL.—Jan. 25.—Prof. Huxley, President, in the chair.—The following new members were announced at this and the preceding meeting:—The Earl of Dunraven and Mountearl, K.P., Lord Rosehill, Messrs. J. W. Barnes, T. H. Baylis, W. Morrison, M.P., D. Duncan, J. E. Edwards, J. F. McLennan, and R. L. Nash.—Dr. Hooker, C.B., exhibited a collection of figures in unbaked clay, modelled by a native Zulu; and Col. A. Lane Fox exhibited some stone mullers for pounding grain.—Mr. Bonwick read a paper 'On the Origin of the Tasmanians, geologically considered,' in which he sought to explain the distribution of many of the dark-coloured races in the southern hemisphere by constructing an ideal southern hemisphere, from whence they may have radiated. Dr. Hooker, whose authority had frequently been quoted in the paper, after speaking of the Floras of Australia, Tasmania, New Zealand, &c., showed that the line of migration followed by plants may not have been identical with that pursued by the higher animals. The President suggested that an interrupted communication, by means of a chain of islands, might have extended from New Cale-



donia to Tasmania, similar to that which now connects New Caledonia with New Guinea; and that by this means a low Negro type might have spread eastwards over this area.—Mr. Howorth's paper 'On a frontier-line of Ethnology and Geology,' was then read, and remarks upon it were made by the President, Dr. Hyde Clarke, Dr. Richard King, and Col. Lane Fox.—Mr. Atkinson read a 'Note on the Nicobar Islanders,' and exhibited some grotesque figures carved in wood, taken from the Nicobars by Capt. Edge in July, 1867, and recently brought to this country by Capt. Mackenzie. They will be placed in the Christy collection, and some similar examples have been forwarded to Edinburgh.

## MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- Mon. Architects, 8.—United Service Institution, 8½.—Fish-tail Rudder for all Vessels, Dr. J. M'Grigor Croft; 'Screw-ship Storage, &c.,' Rear-Admiral E. A. Inglefield.
- Actuaries, 7.—Graduation of Life Tables and Rate of Mortality in Infancy and Childhood, Prof. Ludvig Oppermann (of Copenhagen); 'Proper Method of Loading the Premiums for Life Annuities and Assurances,' Mr. W. S. E. Woolhouse.
- Tues. Royal Institution, 8.—Architecture of the Human Body, Prof. Humphry.
- Anthropological, 8.—'Negro Slaves in Turkey,' Major F. Milne.
- Engineers, 8.—Statistics of Railway Expenditure and Income, and Future Policy and Management, Mr. J. Thornhill Harrison.
- Wed. Society of Arts, 8.—Recent Improvements in Small Arms, Capt. O'Hen.
- Thurs. Royal Institution, 8.—Chemistry of Vegetable Products, Prof. Odling.
- Royal Academy, 8.—Painting, Mr. C. W. Cope.
- Linnean, 8.—Revision of Genera and Species of Capsular Gamophyllous Liliaceæ, Mr. J. G. Baker; 'New Form of Cephalopoda Ova,' Mr. Cuthbert Collingwood.
- Royal, 8.—Antiquaries, 8½.
- Fri. United Service Institution, 8.—Hints for Travelling and Cam-paigning, Mr. W. B. Lord.
- Archæological Institute, 4.
- Royal Institution, 8.—A Talk about Verona and its Rivers, Mr. Ruskin.
- Philological, 8½.—A Paper by Mr. Whitley Stokes.
- Sat. Royal Institution, 3.—Meteorology, Mr. Scott.

## Science Gossip.

THERE will be five new lighthouses on the coast of Egypt, in consequence of the Suez Canal; viz., at Port Said, Rosetta, Burlos, Damietta, and Raz-el-Bouroum.

THE Académie des Sciences has elected Prof. Kirchhoff, of Heidelberg, a corresponding member in the Section of Physics; the vacancy was that caused by the death of Prof. Forbes.

THE Rev. A. E. Eaton, of Trinity College, Cambridge, is preparing a monograph on the Ephemeride, or May-flies, in two parts. Part I. (which will treat of their general and special nomenclature) will contain a chronological catalogue of authorities and a synonymic alphabetical index to their works, descriptions of the known genera and species, and figures of some organs characteristic of the genera and drawings of many of the species. Part II. will be occupied with an account of the anatomy and development of one, or more, characteristic British species.

ON January the 18th, at the annual public meeting of the Academy of Medicine at Paris, M. Béclard made an eloquent speech in honour of Trousseau.

THERE is at present a controversy on a point of lunar physics. M. Hansen believes that he has discovered that the centre of gravity of the moon does not coincide with her actual centre, and his opinion is opposed by Mr. Newcomb, of Washington, U.S.A., and by M. Delaunay.

ASTRONOMERS interested in the forthcoming transits should read the paper by M. Bach, Dean of the Faculty of Sciences at Strasburg, 'Du Passage de Vénus sur le Disque du Soleil en 1874, et du Calcul du Parallaxe du Soleil,' which appears in No. 5, for 1869, of the *Annales Scientifiques de l'Ecole Normale Supérieure*, published under the authority of the Minister of Public Instruction.

M. L. BERGEON, of the Academy of Sciences, has demonstrated, by a neat train of reasoning, that the Lachrymal gland is an important agent in respiration. The Meibomian glands lubricate the eye; it is the function of the Lachrymal glands to moisten the nasal chambers and the air which passes through them. They thus supply that humidity without which the interchange of gas in the lungs could not go on.

M. MOEHLER, a Russian mining-engineer, has prepared a geological map of the western slope of the Ural Mountains, which differs in some important points from the results of M. Verneuil and Sir R. Murchison.

MR. DE POURTALES has brought out a 'List of Holothuridæ from the Deep-Sea Dredgings of the United States Coast Survey.'

THE remains of a fossil serpent, about 30 feet long, and of a species new to science, have been found in the Eocene greensand of New Jersey, U.S.A.

THE new Gesellschaft für Anthropologie und Ethnologie has held its first regular meeting at Berlin. The President, Prof. Virchow, read a paper on the Lacustrine Habitations in North Germany. The *Zeitschrift für Ethnologie* has begun the second year of its existence. Dr. Hartmann, one of the editors, gives the first part of a paper on Lacustrine Habitations in Switzerland.

KÖLLIKER, always industrious, occupies more than half of the new part of *Abhandlungen of the Senckenbergischen Naturforschenden Gesellschaft* with the first section of an elaborate paper, 'Anatomische-Systematische Beschreibung der Alcyonarien,' to which ten plates, crowded with examples, impart all the clearness and completeness that anatomist or naturalist could desire. Well worth study by mineralogists are the papers in the same part by Hessenberg and Scharff, comprising mineralogical notices, with new specimens, and on the structure of feldspath.

THE Royal Danish Scientific Society have published in the Natural and Mathematical Science division of their *Forhandlinger* a paper by Julius Thomsen, 'Recherches Thermo-Chimiques sur les Rapports d'Affinité entre les Acides et les Bases dans une Solution Aqueuse.' The object of this paper is to verify the exactitude of Berthollet's law of the reciprocal action of acids and bases on an aqueous solution; and sets forth on the one hand the heat developed by the neutralization of the different acids by soda, and on the other the development of heat due to the action of the acids on the salts of soda. The author sums up his results in twenty "conclusions."

## FINE ARTS

THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS in WATER COLOURS.—THE WINTER EXHIBITION of Sketches and Studies is NOW OPEN, 5, Pall Mall East. Ten till Five.—Admission, 1s. Gas on dark days. WILLIAM CALLOW, Secretary.

THE INSTITUTE OF PAINTERS in WATER COLOURS.—NOW OPEN, THE FOURTH WINTER EXHIBITION of Sketches and Studies, Daily, from Nine to Six. Gallery, 23, Pall Mall. JAMES FAHEY, Secretary.

GUSTAVE DORÉ.—DORÉ GALLERY, 35, New Bond-street.—EXHIBITION OF PICTURES, OPEN DAILY, at the New Gallery, from Ten till Five (gas at dusk).—Admission, 1s.

## Contributions to the Literature of the Fine-Arts.

By Sir C. L. Eastlake. Second Series. With a Memoir, compiled by Lady Eastlake. (Murray.)

*Life of John Gibson, Sculptor.* Edited by Lady Eastlake. (Longmans & Co.)

THE title of the former of these books does not well express the contents, because, of about 350 pages, nearly 200 pages are devoted to a biography of the late President of the Royal Academy, a biography which is longer and more interesting than the "Life" of John Gibson. Sir Charles Eastlake's "contributions" are 'How to Observe,' an essay intended to assist the intelligent observation of works of Art, written in 1835, a lucid, learned and tasteful dissertation which ought to be republished by itself; it would have been well had such an essay been in the hands of those intelligent amateurs who took so much trouble to enlighten the world by their opinions about 'The Entombment,' now in the National

Gallery, and ascribed to M. Angelo. Other "contributions" are styled 'The Difference between Language and Art,' 'The Beautiful and the Sublime,' 'Representations of Our Saviour,' and 'A Discourse,' the text of which is, "The excellence of any one of the Fine Arts consists chiefly in those qualities which are unattainable by its rivals." Until this golden sentence, which Eastlake very happily enforced but did not invent, is popularly understood, critics will work in vain.

The artists whose lives are before us had not a little in common; both were archæologists, the one seeking to revive antiquity in sculpture; the other devoting the better part of his ability to analyzing and enlarging the history of that pictorial art of which nature denied him the mastery. They were both retrospective students, and would-be revivers rather than artists; they would have flourished under the Antonines in imitating past glories rather than under Pericles in making their own time glorious; but if comparison is possible between a painter and a sculptor, as it surely is here, we recognize the better artist in the President: he, at any rate, knew what he was about, and directed consistently and intelligently the power of an accomplished mind towards an object, the limits, nature and value of which he thoroughly understood; whereas Gibson seems merely to have worked out, with great taste and extraordinary craftsmanship, an idea which was a prejudice of an antiquary, and which stood apart from living art. The consequence has been that Gibson has brought forth only elaborate and well-intentioned continuations of that wonderful sculpture which perished with its age; while Sir C. Eastlake had much that was his own, and was so much nearer this age than the sculptor of Greek gods and men that his art was, above all things, Christian in subject, aim and mode. Gibson was built, so to say, upon antique sculpture, and that not of the noblest strain; while, apart from certain broad elements and principles, which were formerly most aptly illustrated in Venetian art, Eastlake was less abstracted from his century and less archæological. Above all, as we may add, without accepting every word that he wrote, Eastlake's literary works are precious, and, to return to the artist, few can look without delight upon such pictures as 'Heloise,' 'Ippolita Torelli,' and 'Helena.' If any man, without mocking, recalled Giovanni Bellini, it was Eastlake; whereas his admirers would hesitate to put Gibson on a line even with Scopas, much less with Praxiteles, who seems to have been his ideal. That Pheidias was beyond his view was unfortunate, because the Athenian would have taken him nearer to Nature than the Parian. While Gibson, adored of *dilettanti*, served as a mirror of antiquity, there was in England a sculptor, one Watson, so poor that he could not buy marble for the triumph, yet who wrought in plaster 'Sleep and Death bearing away the Body of Sarpedon,'—worthy of being set in Homer's "Shield,"—those magnificent bas-reliefs, at which few look, in Threadneedle Street; and that masterpiece of modern sculpture, the statues of Eldon and Stowell, which are in University College, Oxford. Of course, the wreck of Watson was not the fault of Gibson. Had the professor-ridden *dilettanti* of that day known true art, apart from Greece or Rome, they would have seen that 'Sarpedon' is worthy

of a Greek, while it is not less Watson's than his modern statues; whereas Gibson's Nymphs, Pandoras, Narcissuses, Amazons, and the like, are but false antiques; and the chief merit of his 'Venus,' tinted or otherwise, lies in its likeness to any naked woman.

On the other hand, there is so much of a resemblance between the subjects of these Memoirs that Eastlake can hardly be said to be modern except with regard to his writings, which are models of ability and style. Had Eastlake never seen a "contadina," or seen her in a true and not quasi-pathetic light, such as no old master would have owned; had he eschewed banditti, sentimental beggars, heroic wives of brigands, and the whole series of such puerilities, he could not have been Eastlake, and yet it is almost as inconceivable by those who only study the President's books that he should descend to "contadini" and brigands of modern pseudo-poetic art, as that he should depict British country girls and London burglars. Yet it was in accordance with a rule of life that a mind so keenly critical and so fond of facts should find relief in sentimentalities almost worthy of Italian opera. Except Ary Scheffer, no modern painter of note has been so unreal as Eastlake, but the aim of the former was didactic, while that of the latter was simply æsthetic. This accords with what Lady Eastlake says in different terms and from another point of view: "He possessed a combination of qualities adequate to conduct him to success, not only in pursuits congenial to the culture of art, but in those commonly held to be alien to it. He may be said to have been singularly endowed in this respect, that his strength lay in the union of two natures rarely compatible—the accurate and judicial mind with the refined and ardent æsthetic sense." It is a pity the æsthetic sense did not guide him to something that was forcible as well as chaste.

Lady Eastlake's treatment of her principal theme, the character and career of her husband, is admirable, and its value is shown in no way so powerfully as by its making the book before us interesting for its own sake. Sir Charles was a pupil of Prout, himself a Plymouth man, and was intended for an architect; he was for a short time only at the grammar school of Plympton-Earl, where Reynolds, Northcote and Haydon were educated; he was next at the Charterhouse, London, where he had to "fag." He got loose on more than one occasion, and prowled about London from Lambeth to Dyot Street, St. Giles, the street distinguished by mad Irish rows. When he made up his mind to be an historical painter rather than an architect, the fact was communicated to his father in a letter, which certainly shows the *sang-froid* of the youth in a way which is not insignificant of his after-life. This letter is a masterpiece of its kind, full of boyish but honourable gravity, strange and impressive in one who was barely fifteen, and marked by what his biographer rightly calls his "intense conscientiousness." Still the lad was not unjust to himself, and not bent on overdoing his work: and with all his ardour he said, "I work as hard as my strength will reasonably allow," and entreated his father for the magnificent allowance of eight pounds a month, and spoke of the importance of the regular payment of it. He was extravagant of cash in pursuit of means for study, and replied to remonstrances in a

penitent and amusingly argumentative letter. Thoroughly earnest in working, he broke out at least once, and thus he neglected writing to the father who very readily forgave all there was to forgive.

The family was saddened by the fate of John, the brother of Charles Eastlake, who, after due preparation, started with strong hopes to explore the Niger, and died at Sierra Leone, January, 1813; but before the painter had fairly got over this trouble, Louis the Eighteenth returned to reign in France, and Eastlake started with Brockedon on a trip to Calais: one does not see why they got no further. Here they saw the King embarrassed by the way he was worshipped.

After Waterloo, Eastlake went to Paris, and saw countless pictures, and of all odd works for such a man to fall in love with, the oddest surely was Paul Potter's magnificent 'Bull.' Thence he went to Italy and Greece, met Bunsen and Cockerell, of the former of whom we have here one or two excellent and characteristic touches. Returning to Rome, he stayed till he became thoroughly Italianized, and then the secret of Venetian colour dawned on his mind slowly but certainly:—

"It is strange that I never dwelt on the system of the Venetian school till I had discovered the way in which nature atones, if I may so say, for the want of light and shade in hot countries. In short, the character of nature here, and in the works of Titian and others, is to produce light and dark by colour—the noblest and most general system of imitation. In Greece, the sea and sky are sometimes the darkest parts of the general picture. The monotony of a sandy ground is relieved on one side by the sparkle of marble, and on the other by the depths of the cypress and evergreen oak. So much for inanimate nature; but we find the deep, rich tones of men and animals, and even the dresses of the first, all combine to make amends for the want of that shadow which our northern climes have without colour. The Venetians, therefore, formed their style from the study of Italian nature."

Such is chiaroscuro. After a temporary sojourn in England, Eastlake travelled in the Low Countries and Germany, previously to revisiting the South, where he resided in all about fourteen years. While at Munich he thus criticized Cornelius:—

"Cornelius's works have a grand conception and a sort of condensation of the spirit of his subject; but still, something which tells better in words than in painting, I have observed that Italians and Germans are always glad to harangue and describe their pictures, and their works naturally look better and more interesting while this commentary is going on. It would be wiser if they calculated what effect these pictures will have when they are left to tell their own story, which they must do sooner or later. This is an important consideration for an artist. The colour in these frescoes is absolutely below criticism, the expressions vulgar and exaggerated, and the forms by no means pure. A grand composition and grand general conception are the chief means—the only merits. The fallen state of criticism and knowledge of Art here is very perceptible. The painter is lauded by his brother artists (with some few exceptions), and of course the connoisseur and the public follow. The truth will only be known fifty years hence. Amid such a world of error in all these modern schools it is absolutely necessary to define the ends and means of Art, and to follow them conscientiously, fearlessly. Cornelius has departed from Nature without rising to a general idea; manner, caprice, vulgarity and ugliness are often the consequence. His designs for the Loggia of the Pinacoteca are very profound and full of meaning; even to the smallest ornaments; but who will ever see this?

Small paintings overhead, in an open passage—surely a waste of thought! The agreeable impression on the eye should be the main thing in such circumstances. Meanwhile this depth of thought excites admiration among those who judge of paintings by their descriptions."

The book contains many particulars of Eastlake's personal and literary life: the histories of some of his pictures, of the negotiation for the purchase of the Lawrence Drawings, the falling through of which was mainly due to the third Earl Spencer, then called Viscount Althorp, of Eastlake's declining a Professorship of Art in London University, and of the progress of the National Gallery, as to which institution Viscount Althorp said, "If he had his way he would sell the National Gallery and have nothing of the kind." This intelligent peer was soon succeeded by Sir R. Peel. Other topics come before us, such as the formation of the Fine Arts Commission, of which Eastlake was secretary, and soul of the Westminster Hall exhibitions. We have a courtly account of the decoration of the Summer House at Pimlico, and matters that are more strictly personal.

It is impossible not to feel some interest in the career of a man who was so much in harmony with himself and his circumstances, so divinely self-centered as Gibson, but he has not our sympathies; his art seems an anachronism, and his life would have been impracticable anywhere else than in the Rome of these days; he owed his success first to his force of character in expressing that which was in him; secondly, and chiefly, to the peculiar nature of his countrymen's education; thirdly, to his cleverness as an executant and his tact in rendering not so much the inner truth of Greek sculpture as that idea of it which obtained in the minds of classically-educated laymen. Had he been born with the present generation it is doubtful if his success would have been so great as it was, for he belonged to a period of which Mr. William Roscoe may be taken as an exponent and example, and it is still more questionable if he would have been fortunate had he been born in the second quarter of this century.

Of his life, all the important points as recorded here are sufficiently known: its minute details are embodied in a sort of autobiography which is comprised in this book. His personal character has many lovers, as it deserved to have. What concerns us most in his biography is the execution of the same. Lady Eastlake has done her part well, and the record is simple, but not moving, except to those who find delight in contemplating an eminently successful career, pursued with earnestness to an end. That good fortune which was thus fairly earned, provoked some rather ill-natured criticisms, to one of which this biography makes a weak reply: "He might have done as other sculptors did and do (at least in Rome), and have kept a supply of replicas of his most popular works all ready in his studio, for sale to those who like to come, to see and to carry away; such replicas representing so much ready money to a sculptor of established fame. But Gibson refrained from such practices; not from over-strained principle, not because he thought them wrong in themselves, but simply because his thoughts never travelled in the money-getting direction." Now, while it is evident that he did not refrain from



making replicas on account of any conscientious scruples, the hardihood of these declarations is peculiarly unfortunate, as, in order to refute them in the spirit, if not in the bare fact that the sculptor did not keep replicas on hand for sale, we have but to turn to the list of Gibson's productions, which is at the end of this volume, to learn that, if he had no replicas on sale, at least he made them to order in what are, we hope, unfrequent numbers. He made three repetitions of the 'Hunter and Dog,' two of 'Psyche,' two of the 'Nymph kissing Cupid,' two of 'The Shepherd Boy,' two of 'Cupid tormenting the Soul,' not fewer than eight of 'Cupid disguised as a Shepherd,' two of 'Flora,' three of 'Narcissus,' four of 'Venus,' two of 'Hebe.' Thus of ten statues and groups we have, including originals, not fewer than forty avowed versions. If this was not making replicas with a vengeance we know not what is. Ten ideas told forty times over! His "indifference to gain" is curiously illustrated by these proceedings. Is it possible that such a phrase is ironically used in the book before us? We do not, of course, question the morality of producing these things, because, we presume, every buyer of a replica knew that he bought second-hand designs; but the reckoning does not affirm the abundance of Gibson's ideas.

## MR. PENLEY.

THE death of this clever water-colour painter and popular drawing-master is stated to have taken place suddenly, on the 15th inst. Mr. Penley, who was known as the author of what is called a "drawing-master's book," styled 'A System of Water-Colour Painting,' was elected a member of the Institute of Painters in Water Colours in 1838. Eighteen years later he withdrew from this Society, then called "The New Society of Painters in Water Colours," on the plea that justice was not done to his works when they were sent for exhibition. In 1859 he was, at his own solicitation, re-elected an Associate of the Institute. From 1851 till its dissolution, Mr. Penley was "Professor" of Drawing in the H.E.I.C. College. He held a similar post at Woolwich until his death. He was the author of 'Elements of Perspective' as well as the 'System of Water-Colour Painting': both of these books went through a large number of editions.

## EXCAVATIONS AT ST. MARTIN'S-LE-GRAND.

THE latter end of last week the workmen employed in sinking a trench for the Pneumatic Tube in St. Martin's-le-Grand, at the corner of the Post Office nearest to Newgate Street, came upon the remains of a solid wall, some feet in thickness, composed of several courses of rough stones and bricks filled up with rubble. They supposed it to be the old London Wall, but upon examination it is thought to be part of the wall of the College of St. Martin-le-Grand. This ancient monastic establishment was founded by Ingelric, A.D. 1060, who subsequently became the first Dean. The building is described as a fair large college of a dean and secular canons or priests. Their rights were not only confirmed by William the Conqueror, but their possessions increased. The succeeding monarchs also favoured them. The office of dean was filled by men who were notable ecclesiastics, many being exalted to the bench of bishops. The rights of sanctuary were also enjoyed by this precinct as early as 1376, the 50th of Edward the Third. The church, with all its rights and possessions, was given by Henry the Seventh, July the 19th, 1503, to the Abbey of Westminster. The abbots of the abbey assumed the office of dean, and all power passed to Westminster. The college and property were seized by order of Edward the Sixth, in 1542, and pulled down, several streets

being built, viz., George Street, Angel Street, Little and Great Dean Court, Three Crown Court, &c., the inhabitants having the peculiar power of voting for parliamentary Members for Westminster; but the Act of Parliament for building the present Post Office, 55 George 3, c. 91, passed June the 23rd, 1815, abolished this right and removed the whole of the inhabitants.

## ART IN BAVARIA.

Munich, Jan. 15, 1870.

THERE is not in all Munich a more industrious worker than Kaulbach. Go to him as often as you may, you are sure to find him in his studio, in a loose coat lined with fur, standing before his easel, now working at this chalk drawing of some story from Goethe or Shakespeare, now at a cartoon, and, more rarely, at an oil picture. Drawing is his forte, and what he delights in. And a pleasure it is to watch him as, with a piece of charcoal, he draws with sure hand the outlines of a human figure. No workman under an overseer is more regular at his work than he. Now and then he gives himself a holiday, but it is very rarely, and there must be some circumstance which has led to the unusual occurrence. The cause generally is the completion of some task on which he had been long at work; and then he gives himself a holiday, and, if it be summer, stays at home in his shady garden, reading a volume of Scott or Shakespeare. If it be winter time, his pastime is to play with some bit of satire, political or other; and he enjoys the fun as this figure or that group grows into form, and a happy touch gives the character intended. One such cartoon, life size, I remember seeing a year or two ago. It was 'Germania,' a nobly-proportioned woman, with fine head and thoughtful countenance, armed too, with a mighty sword girded to her side to do battle should need be. Her commanding figure and strong limbs showed that, womanly as she was, she might be a leader in the fight, but all her attention was absorbed by an open book, marked 'Philosophy,' which she held in her hands; and so intense was her attention, she did not perceive that, as she walked on, the crown which clasped her head was falling down backwards, and would be lost.

A large cartoon, which Kaulbach began long ago in "holiday time," is now being exhibited for a charitable purpose, and has called forth attacks and reproaches from the Ultramontane party. It represents the Grand Inquisitor Arbes (whom the Pope canonized two or three years ago), going to the execution of an heretical family, who stand in the background. The stake with its pile of wood is seen further off, and a troop of monks in solemn procession are advancing to the fatal spot. Beside the Inquisitor, some servants of the Inquisition are collecting the monies and valuables of which the condemned family have been despoiled. A day or two ago one of a party who had come to see the picture was explaining the subject to his friends, when a gentleman who was present grew so angry that a scene ensued. "It was the imperative duty of a good Catholic to destroy such a calumnious work," he said; and matters went so far that the police had to be summoned; and since then an extra policeman is in attendance at the Academy where the cartoon is exhibiting. Formerly, there was perhaps no town as large as Munich where political questions were so little regarded, for what did not immediately concern local interests was not heeded, and the elections passed over so quietly that there was hardly a sign of their taking place. Now, however, a battle is fought at the hustings as exciting and determined as elsewhere. Overnight, as it were, people have become politicians, and this change has been produced solely by the encroachments making, on the one hand, by Rome, and Prussia on the other.

In Art matters there is little to record. Whatever market the artists have for their pictures is a foreign one—America chiefly,—and as to new buildings nothing has been done since King Max dabbled in Art, and built the Maximilian Strasse. The large building at the end of it, over-

looking the Isar, is still unfinished, and from the nondescript forms which characterize it no one can have a notion of what it eventually will be like: but let it turn out as it may, it will always be a monstrosity.

Architecture is a department of Art which, at all events, just now prospers less here than any other; while in painting, as the late International Exhibition proved beyond all doubt, Bavaria could, without being accused of assumption, take her place beside the schools of Dusseldorf, France and Belgium.

Between Munich and Vienna there is just on this point of architecture a marked difference. As regards pictorial art Vienna is sadly in the background. Her Academy must be deficient in power, for little or nothing emanates from it of any note. The Austrian painters who have achieved anything, studied in other schools; but in architecture I know not any city that could compete with the capital on the Danube. Private buildings, the palaces of the nobility, the houses of business of the great merchants, even those for the retail sale of goods, are noble in their proportions, tastefully elegant and pleasing to the eye, gorgeous in decoration, or of grand and severe simplicity according to the edifice and its purpose. The internal decorations of some of the buildings are unique in the taste displayed and in the employment of materials once in vogue, but which have fallen into disuse. The new opera-house, a thorough work of Art in all its parts, is an instance of this.

The photographer Albert, who has made a valuable discovery of a means of multiplying the negative picture by the printing press, like a common lithograph, is busy at work producing in his new manner thousands of portraits, views, &c. The plan has already been noticed in your columns. The impressions never fade, as the best photographs are certain to do in time. The process is much cheaper than the present one of reproduction; it is quicker, neater, cleaner, as there is no soaking in water, drying, cutting and pasting, and the workman is no longer dependent on the weather to enable him to execute an order quickly. A photograph may be taken in the afternoon, and, by working the press all night, by the next morning any reasonable amount of impressions can be furnished to the passing traveller or to meet some sudden emergency; yet between such printed copies and the best photograph taken with the aid of the sun there is no difference.

I may, I think, venture to predict that few works of Art will be sent from here to the forthcoming International Exhibition at Kensington; for as the carriage to and fro is to be defrayed by the sender, and as, moreover, no packing-cases will be received, he would be obliged to have an agent in London to receive, unpack and send to the Exhibition, and afterwards to fetch and repack his work, all of which would entail an expense few will incur. The cost of carriage to Munich and back of the works sent to the Bavarian International Exhibition was defrayed by the Committee, and must have amounted to a considerable sum, for there were very many marble statues and groups from Italy, and the pictures from Belgium and France, especially from the latter country, were numerous. It is a pity that the English authorities have not followed this example, for it would be a decided gain to have a good display of modern German art brought before the English public. The products of every people, in Art as in Literature, have an impress peculiar to themselves, just as the people have who produced them and the common wares they fabricate; and by studying them and noting what is good we may supply deficiencies in our own works little heeded before. German artists might with profit to themselves examine what our painters have produced; and from the German schools we in turn might find much to learn. The Exhibition of a year ago at Vienna and the one this last autumn at Munich, with all their shortcomings, gave evidence of the manifold excellencies which belong to German pictorial art.

B.

## Fine-Art Gossip.

At an unusually full meeting of Members and Associates of the Royal Academy, which was held on Tuesday evening last, the majority seemed bent on electing a landscape painter, and Mr. V. Cole was chosen A.R.A. This gentleman and Mr. Peter Graham having an equal number, nine, of scratches at the preliminary stage of the proceedings, a ballot was held, when Mr. Cole distanced his rival by several votes. In the "scratching" Mr. F. Walker received six favourable marks, Mr. Marks five, Mr. Woolner four, besides one which was not attested by the signature of the giver. A large number of candidates were nominated; of these most had no scratches, others obtained but one or two.

MR. RUSKIN'S first lecture as Slade Professor of Fine Arts at Oxford will be delivered on the 14th proximo. It is understood that Leonardo da Vinci, as compared with some of his pupils, especially Luini, will supply a theme to the lecturer, whose attention has been, of course, apart from this, much occupied of late by botanical studies.

THE private view of the General Exhibition of Water Colour Drawings, Dudley Gallery, will take place next Saturday; the Exhibition will be opened to the public on Monday following.

EVERYBODY will be glad to learn that Mr. Leighton is recovering from the severe illness which originated, it is believed, in that excess of labour which attended the many Academical duties and offices he had to perform. Independently of his ordinary labours, the painter was, during last season, one of the hangers of the Summer Exhibition, one of the Visitors to the Schools, and one of the special committee appointed to gather and arrange the present collection of pictures by Old Foreign and Recently Deceased British Masters. It is needless to state that Mr. Leighton was one of the most active where all were active in performing the duties of these offices. We may add, in respect to what the public does not see, that the Schools of the Royal Academy had from him the benefit of supervision by a rarely accomplished Visitor; he gave earnest attention to the students, and did all in his power for their advantage; his zeal for the Schools in question has led him to promise to endow them with that noble series of studies made by himself in the East which is familiar to those admitted to his painting-rooms. This is a princely gift, which we announced some time ago. The public will lose by the painter's illness, inasmuch as he will not, at best, be able to finish more than a single picture for the coming Exhibition. Although temporarily suspended, this work is far advanced towards completion. As it is one of the most important of his works, it would be affectation on our part not to note that it will be one of the most admirable of his productions. The subject is derived from the 'Alcestis' of Euripides.

It will surprise many, especially old students in the Royal Academy, to learn that the last admitted batch of probationers to the Antique School comprised eleven ladies. Eleven were already in this school. Many of the probationers have studied in the Schools of the Art Department at South Kensington.

M. GIRARD, the engraver, has just died at the age of eighty-three. He engraved works of Ary Scheffer, Gérard, Delaroche, Winterhalter and others.

A PROPOSAL is on foot for the decoration of the new church at Kensington, now erecting from designs by Mr. G. G. Scott, with stained-glass windows in memory of Newton and Hunter, both parishioners. We hope stained glass will be used judiciously, and not, as is too common, to excess. Wilkie, another parishioner, might well be added to Hunter and Newton, as a subject for a memorial.

THE proposals of the new *Ministre des Beaux Arts*, which we spoke of last week, are published. The Emperor will institute an Imperial Academy of the Fine Arts under his own patronage and the

nominal presidency of the minister. All the French artists—painters, sculptors, designers, architects, engravers and lithographers—who have been distinguished for their works by the Legion of Honour, by medals of honour, and by the Grand Prize of Rome, are to compose this body, which is to control the annual exhibitions and exercise other privileges. The project has already found an opponent in M. C. Garnier, the architect of the new Opera House.

## MUSIC

MR. W. H. HOLMES'S PIANOFORTE PUPILS' CONCERT, assisted by Eminent Professors (by kind permission, at Lady Fremantle's, Feb. 10, at 9 o'clock.—Programmes of Mr. W. H. Holmes, 36, Beaumont-street, Marylebone.

## MUSICAL NOTES.

M. GOTTSCHALK, the pianist and writer of music for the piano, died in the course of last month, at Rio Janeiro, aged forty, and, an obituary notice assures us, "much lamented" by his family as an amiable and steadfast man, and as an artist by his "innumerable admirers." We cannot number ourselves in the latter company. That he had immense power over the keyboard of his instrument cannot be questioned, but it was a "giant's strength used" (to adopt the well-known line) not excellently, but "tyrannously." The extreme of permissibility force was probably reached by Herr Dreysechok, who appeared resolute to outdo Herr Thalberg and Dr. Liszt; though less perfectly charming than the one, less majestic and fiery than the other. M. Gottschalk was born in Louisiana, and expressed his nationality in his most characteristic pianoforte music, which represented the songs and dances of the country. But he has left no mark in the world of music—save in his home circle.

Another death, nearer home, of a valued and valuable member of the musical profession, M. Battu, long connected with all the best exhibitions of Paris, took place a few days ago. This violinist was born, says the *Gazette Musicale*, in 1799; studied at the *Conservatoire*, under Rodolphe Kreutzer, and there obtained the first prize in 1822. His public performances gained him an immediate and most honourable place in the two best French orchestras, those of the *Société des Concerts*, and of the Grand Opéra. These he retained during many years. At the beginning of his career, M. Battu followed the universal law of solo players, which is to attempt composition. That for one who succeeds in this capacity there are some fifty who fail to be remembered, the annals of the Violin show. Spohr is the most remarkable exception; but then he was a universal, and not a special composer, and by his marked manner took and kept, and will keep, his place in the rank of great artists. The subject cannot be exhausted at the time being. It is enough to "point the moral" by saying that the two concertos perpetually fallen back on (even though such masters of grace as Rode, Viotti, Kreutzer, —and better, brighter still, M. De Beriot,—have written works for themselves to interpret) have been the two concertos written by no professed violinists,—both are more or less ungrateful to the executants,—we mean the one by Beethoven, and that by Mendelssohn. To return, M. Battu's family has made itself honourably known in the musical profession. The most prominent member of it during past years has been Mdlle. Battu, who occupied at the Grand Opéra the place filled before her by Madame Cinti-Damoreau and by Madame Dorus-Gras. She was the original *Ines* in 'L'Africaine.'

None of those who are interested in individual character or in the history of French music can have read without interest and curiosity the series of articles, not yet completed, in the *Gazette Musicale*, on M. Berlioz and his works. I cannot recall anything more instructive and curious; whether they be considered as displaying the natural power and arrogance of the man, his keen but often unjust wit, evidenced in his printed criticisms on the music of his contemporaries,—his utter deficiency in every study that trains a real artist; and, con-

sequently, his contempt for schools and great accepted musicians, many of whose works he did not care to know (even though he wrote of them),—or his melancholy want of self-knowledge. He appears to have considered himself as the successor of Beethoven, under persecution, strengthened, it may be, in this delusion by the one munificent deed recorded to the credit of Paganini, who, in a spasm of liberality, made the young composer, then struggling against neglect and ridicule, a present of money. But his productions were as poor in idea as his real musical means were small and his pretensions astounding. He was as noticeable a compound of biting sarcasm, genial admiration of some two or three idols elect, and singular ignorance (which means inevitable prejudice), as the world has seen. The life of such a man, if impartially examined and told, would be a great lesson to all enthusiasts and iconoclasts,—supposing them desirous to receive "the whole truth and nothing but the truth."

Every one who respects good intentions will be sorry to read that M. Padeloup has, among his many Parisian speculations, "fallen to the ground." That his operatic theatre could hardly keep its ground might have been foreseen, by those, at least, who know how barren are the young composers of France, and who do not share that admiration, born out of a dreary conviction of such barrenness, which has been foolishly lavished on the "Music of the Future." M. Padeloup broke down under the music of Wagner, even as did M. Carvalho under 'Les Troyens' of Berlioz. "Be bold, be bold—be not too bold" is the motto which should be written over the door within every manager's room. On the outside, aspirants have largely read another device, not less well known—"Leave all hope behind." If the matter be looked into carefully, the two sentences will be found, if not to correspond, largely to bear one on the other.

HENRY F. CHORLEY.

## LYCEUM THEATRE.

*Opéra-bouffe* has probably never been presented in such sumptuous guise as that in which it is now to be seen at the Lyceum. We use the word "seen" advisedly. All that upholstery and millinery can do to make an opera attractive has here been done; scenery and costumes are alike superb. But as for the voices, which were formerly taken to be indispensable to the performance of an opera, they are not to be heard. To compare great things with small, just as acting has been left out in most recent revivals of Shakespeare, singing has been omitted in the "creation" of M. Hervé. 'Chilpéric,' the play, is superbly dressed, and *Chilpéric*, the personage, sings without any voice. All the companions of the merry monarch are equally destitute. If *Chilpéric* were a mere burlesque, the deficiency would be an absolute recommendation, for as many of the characters speak an unintelligible jargon, and as they all have dull empty balderdash to utter, the less they were heard the less would the listeners' patience be taxed. But 'Chilpéric' professes to be a comic opera, and in order that the audience may be amused they should be able to hear that which is expected to amuse them. Not that 'Chilpéric' is really comic; the greater part of the music is written in as heroic a style as any of the grand operas which have failed in Paris of late years. The serious—or, to speak correctly, the heavy music, is, however, systematically relieved by movements in dance-time, shaped after the fashion of M. Offenbach's popular pieces. The composer has, perhaps, worked in this manner with intention, in order to obtain the effects made by the late Mr. Robson in his acting of burlesque. But music is not an art to be irreverently treated, and a sculptor might as well disfigure a lovely form with a monstrous mis-shapen head as a musician cap a sentimental duet with a comic *stretto*. The very merits which M. Hervé's admirers claim for him aggravate his offence. His serious work is done in a thoroughly musicianlike manner. His scoring is so neat and effective, and there is so much cleverness in some of his modulations, that, if he had any gift of ori-



ginal melody he might possibly write a good serious opera. There is abundant animation in his rollicking quick movements, but we do not trace in his music any of the subtle humour which makes M. Auber so fascinating, or of the genial laughter-loving spirit which gives an eternal freshness to Rossini. We do not, of course, intend any comparison by this juxtaposition of names; it is not a difference in degree but a difference in kind that we intend to convey. It will be said that there is some place for every form of art, however debased: but to our thinking, there is no place for such a piece of work as 'Chilpéric'—half pretentious, half vulgar, wholly unworthy. If there is any place for it, it is a music-hall—not a high-class theatre. To analyze M. Hervé's production would be to waste the reader's time. The story, such as it is, has for its subject the amours of the Merovingian monarch, and the farce has only one really droll situation—that in which the king and courtiers, druids and druidesses, overtaken by a shower of rain, are supplied by a provident chamberlain with a stock of umbrellas to preserve their garments from the storm. M. Hervé himself takes the principal character, and speaks the English words in such a manner as completely to conceal the inelegance of the verse and the vulgarity of the dialogue. As we have already hinted, he has no voice, but, being a musician, he makes the most of it,—to use an Hibernianism, which in this case is scarcely a paradox. Two of his compatriots made more favourable *débuts*. There is little to choose between the English of M. Hervé and that of M. Marius, but the latter, a bright-eyed, vivacious youth, gives a new physiognomy to an old type of character, an uncouth, unsophisticated peasant. M. Lapière has a well-toned voice, and speaks quite intelligibly. Miss Dolaro, whom, despite her foreign name, we should take to be English, makes pretty use of a thin voice; and Miss Emily Muir gives indications of musical training. The scenery is all admirably painted, and the costumes are devised with exquisite taste. The chorus, too, is remarkably good, and the orchestra, conducted by Mr. Musgrave, excellent. Great pains must have been taken to secure so unusually smooth a first performance. It is a pity that, while we have no opera in our native tongue, such infinite care should have been bestowed on a rendering, in broken English, of a degrading French farce.

The first piece of the evening, a comedy-drama, 'Corrupt Practices,' by Mr. F. A. Marshall, may be dismissed with a word. The dialogue has some telling "lines," but the prevailing tone of cynicism disgusted the audience, whose displeasure was converted by the tragic *dénouement* into derision. The piece was inefficiently acted, with the exception of Mr. Coghlan, who exhibited much quiet power. The point of light in the evening's long performance was Mrs. Keeley's delivery of an opening address, written by Mr. John Oxenford.

#### MONDAY POPULAR CONCERTS.

MADAME NORMAN-NÉRUDA was prevented by sudden illness from leaving Manchester on Monday, and could not therefore take part in the Popular Concert of that evening. Her place was supplied by Herr Straus, who was to have played the viola, which thus devolved on M. Zerbin. The programme, given intact, contained no novelty, but the pianist, Mr. Frederic H. Cowen, was a stranger to these Concerts. His affected and imperfect rendering of the *sonate pathétique* disappointed us much, the extreme cleverness displayed in his recently-noticed symphony having led us to anticipate more, perhaps, than we had any right to expect. It is but few who can hope to be equally great in composition and in performance. Mr. Cowen, however, is very young, and has the world before him. Miss Edith Wynne was the singer, but was not singing her best.

#### VARIOUS CONCERTS.

HAYDN'S 'Seasons' has of late years been so unfairly elbowed out of the public way by the more sacred and less uniformly successful oratorio 'The Creation,' that some acknowledgment is due

to Mr. Barnby for having included the later work in his ambitious scheme. In 'The Creation,' Haydn does not rise to the full height of his theme, in 'The Seasons,' he completely succeeds in illustrating the natural beauties which he loved so well. Haydn must have had an elective affinity for Thomson, whose translated lines he has so fittingly set. The performance at the Oratorio Concerts was not above reproach, nor was it open to serious animadversion. The solo singers were capable, Madame Lemmens being especially well suited. Mr. Byron, who has a pleasant light tenor voice, did efficient duty for Mr. Vernon Rigby, and Mr. Lewis Thomas sang excellently.

The Sacred Harmonic Society's performance of 'Elijah' was uniformly grand. The solo singers included Madame Sinico, who seems determined to conquer the difficulties of oratorio.

Schubert's 'Tragic' symphony was evidently even more appreciated on its repetition at the Crystal Palace last Saturday than at its first performance there some time ago. There, indeed, Schubert's rich natural genius, his playful fancy and his melancholy grace, may be seen at their best. The overtures were Mendelssohn's 'Son and Stranger' and Mr. Arthur Sullivan's 'Sapphire Necklace,' a deserved favourite at these Concerts. The clever composer had to do duty as conductor for Mr. Manns, incapacitated by illness from holding the bâton. Madame Néruda, also absent, was replaced by Herr Wilhelmj, who astonished his hearers by the remarkable facility he displayed in Ernst's fantasia on 'Otello.'

The brilliant violinist repeated the fantasia and an air by Bach at Exeter Hall on the evening of the same day. The singers at the Saturday Concerts were Madame Sinico, Messrs. Reeves, Santley and Foli, and the symphony Beethoven's neglected and Mozart-like No. 1.

Mr. Boosey's Ballad Concerts are now concluded. Nothing requiring notice was brought out at the third and fourth of the series.

#### Musical Gossip.

MR. HENRY LESLIE'S opening concert is announced for the 3rd of February.

THE 'Hymn of Praise' and the 'Stabat Mater' are announced for the next performance of the Sacred Harmonic Society, to take place next Friday week.

MR. ARTHUR SULLIVAN'S 'Prodigal Son' was lately performed at Belfast, under the direction of Mr. Sellier.

WE understand that Miss Gabriel's new operetta is in rehearsal, for its first performance at Canterbury, on behalf of a local religious object. It will shortly be produced at the Gallery of Illustration.

THE *Gibraltar Chronicle* regrets the meagre encouragement given to the Italian Opera Company by the inhabitants of the "Rock," and the consequent departure of the *troupe* to Cadiz. "Perhaps," says the writer, "the state of the theatre itself may have something to do with the scanty attendance, for it is anything but clean, and is far from comfortable; and without doubt many ladies are kept away by the odour of stables, always so plainly perceptible in the lower boxes, and by the fumes of tobacco which fill the house between the acts." We can readily understand that these must be drawbacks to the enjoyment even of such an opera as 'Suppho.'

A FESTIVAL is being organized at San Francisco for the benefit of the Mercantile Library there. The festival is to last three days, and the shops are to be shut during concert hours. The short paragraph in the French journal, which is our only authority for the announcement, states that passengers having tickets are to be conveyed for nothing. We presume this does not apply to travellers from the old world. The fable of the mountain in labour may possibly receive a new illustration. The announcement of one hundred musicians fails to strike us with awe.

M. GOUNOD'S 'Médecin malgré lui' has been revived at the Théâtre Lyrique. M. Padeloup's

approaching retirement from the management will interfere with the promised production of 'Le Magnifique,' the one-act opera recently "crowned."

MDLLE. MURSKA has appeared at the Italiens in 'Marta,' and in 'Un Ballo in Maschera,' obtaining the partial and qualified success which is everywhere her fate. In Verdi's version of 'Gustave' M. Bonnehée, who has migrated from the Grand Opéra, was well received.

THE lady who, under the name of Mdle. Zina Paoli, was announced to appear at the Italiens on Thursday last in 'Il Barbiere,' is a member, it is said, of the Narischkine family.

THE Opera Concerts in Paris are, so says report, about to be reorganized. They are to have a subvention from the *Ministère des Beaux Arts*, and a series of festivals is to be given, each to be dedicated to a different composer. Whenever it is possible to arrange it, the composers themselves are to conduct. Félicien David is to be represented by 'Moise' and 'Le Désert,' M. Gounod by 'Ulysse' and 'Tobie,' the Abbé Liszt by 'St. Elizabeth' (!), Sir Michael Costa by 'Naaman,' M. Rubinstein by his Ocean Symphony, &c. The idea is grand. To judge by experience the project will fail.

M. E. DESGRANGES has succeeded M. Strauss as conductor of the balls given at the Tuileries and the Hôtel de Ville.

DURING the recent fair at Leipzig eight operas were brought out in as many days, among them 'Medea,' the terrible heroine of which sublime opera was personated by Fräulein Schneider. 'Lohengrin' is being prepared for the Easter fair.

ROSSINI'S Messe Solennelle has been given at a concert at St. Petersburg under the direction of Signor Vianesi. Mdle. Adelina Patti sang the 'Crucifixus' only,—it is said, with extraordinary effect. The other singers were Mesdames Fricci and Trebelli, MM. Calzolari and Bagagiolo.

MADAME MARIE SUSS has been engaged for the months of October and November at St. Petersburg, at the price, it is said, of 37,000 francs.

MR. and Mrs. Federico Guzman gave a concert at Panama, on the 9th of December, when Mr. Guzman played some of his own compositions.

#### DRAMA

##### THE QUEEN'S THEATRE.

A FIVE-ACT historical drama, by Mr. Tom Taylor, entitled 'Twixt Axe and Crown,' has been produced at the Queen's Theatre. A German play, by Charlotte von Birch-Pfeiffer, the well-known actress and dramatist, has supplied the outline and some of the machinery, but the greater part of the dialogue and no inconsiderable portion of the motive are original. The whole constitutes a work of power and merit. It is not free from redundancies, and would be strengthened by the excision of many speeches and of some scenes, but it is dramatic, and enlists in a high degree the interest and the sympathy of the spectator. The blank verse in which it is written is nervous, the action of the play is continuous and sustained, and the dramatic situations are effective. These qualities are sufficient to ensure the success of 'Twixt Axe and Crown,' but they are balanced by defects, many of which are serious, though probably none are irremediable. The Princess Elizabeth is oversentimentalized,—a fault for which the author and the actress to whom the part is confided are in an equal degree responsible, and the love passages between her and Courtenay are deprived of dignity. Against the manner in which historical events have been dealt with we have little to say. A clear and decided gain is obtained by bringing together the death of Courtenay and the accession of Elizabeth, and by other unimportant violations of historical accuracy. The secreting of Courtenay in Elizabeth's chamber purchases, however, too dearly a dramatic situation of inconsiderable value by placing the Princess in a position at once undignified and improbable. Some of the comic scenes prolong the action of the play without imparting to it such liveliness as atones for their presence.

Mr. Taylor has owned his indebtedness to Madame Birch-Pfeiffer, and he has on the whole improved upon the earlier work, which is in six acts, or, as the author preferred to call it, five acts and an after-act. But while he has strengthened the main action and intensified the situations, he has introduced more than one element of weakness, from which the original is free. In the fourth act he has added to the situation, which was fine in the German, and has made it memorably striking and powerful. Of the new characters introduced, Simon Rénard, of whom Victor Hugo makes great use in his 'Marie Tudor,' is the most important. A different aspect is, however, given to some of the personages retained. The character of Mary in particular has undergone great alteration.

The action of the story deals principally with the loves of Courtenay and Elizabeth, and may easily be epitomized. In the first act, Mary makes offer, through Gardiner, of her hand to Courtenay, and is repulsed. Suspecting Elizabeth of being responsible for the mortification she undergoes, she vows vengeance against her and against Courtenay. Act two shows the first love-scenes between Elizabeth and Courtenay, who, has hidden himself in her apartments at Ashridge, in order to place in her hand a scheme for her elevation to the throne. It concludes with the arrest of Elizabeth by the Queen's mandate.

Acts three and four are laid in the Tower. In the former Gardiner and Rénard try to obtain proof of the complicity of Courtenay and Elizabeth in the plots of Sir Thomas Wyatt and others, but are foiled. Courtenay and Elizabeth, left to themselves, talk love instead of treason, and Wyatt, confronted with Courtenay, retracts his confession made upon the rack, and acquits the young couple of responsibility for his crime. As no evidence sufficient to justify the conviction of either prisoner can be obtained, Gardiner, at the instance of Rénard, sets Courtenay free, and resolves to behead Elizabeth without waiting for the sign-manual of Mary; but Elizabeth, when the warrant for her execution is shown her, defies Gardiner to execute it, and persuades the Lieutenant of the Tower to refuse it as illegal. In act five, Mary expires heart-broken, and the courtiers throng to Hatfield House, where Elizabeth, receiving news of her accession to the Crown and of the death of her lover, resolves to dedicate her life to the cause of the people to whose love she owes her escape from the manifold perils with which she has been environed. The crowning situation occurs at the end of the fourth act. Elizabeth, left alone in the Tower, yields in the deepening twilight to the terrors the place is well calculated to inspire. She sees a series of

Pale shapes of queens with dim disowned brows,  
(a fine but scarcely original line),

And each a ring of red about her neck,  
And youngest, fairest of them all—her mother,  
and shrieks with fear. When, however, immediately afterwards Gardiner enters, her spirit rises for a brief time and she confronts him resolutely. Not until the prelate retires discomfited do her fictitious spirits fail her. Then, spent and broken, she sinks back into the arms of her waiting-maid. This scene, the later portion of which is not in the original, is finely devised and well executed, and is sufficient to render noteworthy the drama in which it occurs. Herein, moreover, Elizabeth is seen in her true colours, and is no longer the amiable and weak princess she seems to be in the early acts.

The interest in 'Twixt Axe and Crown' is mainly feminine. Elizabeth and Mary are the two prominent figures, before whom Gardiner on the one hand and Courtenay on the other recede. Courtenay has been a good deal idealized, and is represented as a brave, gallant and impetuous nobleman. Mr. Rousby, however, who played the character, is apparently unsuited to parts of this description. His appearance had little grace, and his bearing no chivalry, and in both points he was disappointing to those who had seen him in *Bertuccio* and other characters, in which he had displayed solid gifts. Mrs. Rousby was excellent

as Elizabeth, and showed the possession of high powers. Timid at first and over-complaisant, she warmed as she proceeded, and in the scene at the close of the fourth act, and in that in which she heard of the death of her sister and of Courtenay, displayed intelligence and tragic fire. Miss Pauncefort, though a little conventional in one or two respects, played Mary well, while Mr. Marston as Gardiner, Mr. Ryder as Rénard, Mr. Belford as Sir John Harrington, and Mr. Rignold as Sir John Brydges, contributed to the success of the representation. Some of the scenery was good. The dresses of the female characters were tasteful, those of the men were, as a rule, over gay in colours and ornamentation.

#### LA COMÉDIE FRANÇAISE.

ON the 14th inst. the two-hundred-and-forty-eighth anniversary of the birth of Molière was celebrated at the Comédie, in the usual fashion. A performance of the 'Misanthrope' and the 'Malade Imaginaire' was followed by the ceremony of crowning the bust of the poet and reciting verses in his honour. In the representation of the 'Malade Imaginaire' the entire company took part. The verses were by M. Carcassone.—A poetical drama, in one act, by M. Manuel, entitled 'Les Ouvriers,' has been produced, and has met with a success beyond its pretensions. It is a simple and touching piece, describing the progress of rustic loves. Madame François lives with her son Marcel, a workman, who believes her a widow. She has, however, a husband living still, though unconscious of her existence. In a moment of drunken passion he has wounded her with a knife—then, frightened at his action, has left her for dead, and has not since been heard of. Marcel is about to marry Hélène, the adopted daughter of M. Morin, a neighbouring manufacturer. In M. Morin, however, the self-constituted guardian of Hélène, Madame François discovers her husband. She recoils from him with aversion, forbidding Marcel to dream of espousing one connected, however remotely, with him. In a contest between love for a mistress and that for a mother, a Frenchman upon the stage generally yields to the latter. Marcel, accordingly, will not quit his mother, and Hélène is equally faithful to her adopted father. Hélène's goodness and gentleness become, in the end, the means of bringing about a general reconciliation. Coquelin was admirable as Marcel, and Mauban scarcely less good as Morin, a species of civilized Jean Valjean. Madame François and Hélène were played respectively by Mdle. Nathalie and Mdle. Reichenberg.

#### L'ODÉON.

M. LATOUR SAINT-YBARS, thirty years ago one of the most zealous upholders of the classical drama and the writer of many tragedies produced at the Comédie and the Odéon, has re-appeared upon what can scarcely be called the scene of his triumphs. Mdle. Rachel played the heroine in two of his dramas without, however, bringing to either the success that might have been expected when the rarity of her appearance in new pieces was taken into account. The latest work of M. Latour Saint-Ybars is a drama in five acts and in verse, produced at the Odéon. It is a story of Roman life, and is entitled 'L'Affranchi.' Sarpédon, its hero, is a slave to whom Pompey has given his freedom, and who has since obtained a reputation in Rome for the splendour of his living and the debauchery of his manners. The Roman youths, those even of highest birth, are proud to be his associates and to ape his vices. At this time a certain Queen Berenice appears in Rome to supplicate the protection of Pompey against her warlike neighbours. Sarpédon lays a wager he will within three days win the affections of the stranger, and, presenting himself as Pompey, is successful. He falls, however, so deeply in love with her he is ashamed to owe his triumph to trick, and reveals his true station. Scorn and insult then succeed the marks of affection to which he has been used; and the "affranchi," whose insolence has been told to Pompey, is sentenced to crucifixion. His love

for the Queen and the approach of death arouse in him latent sparks of goodness. He refuses chances of escape which are offered him, and will not accept the pardon which the Queen, touched by his sufferings, attempts to secure. In the end, he dies in her presence, stricken by the hand of a faithful slave. Dramatically considered, the piece is a failure, its interest being thoroughly inadequate to support its framework. As a study of Roman manners at the time immediately previous to the struggle between Cæsar and Pompey, it has considerable merit. Berton played Sarpédon and Mdle. Sarah Bernhardt the Queen Berenice.

#### LE THÉÂTRE CLUNY.

THE 'Médecin des Dames' of Madame Gustave Fould is a curious mixture of the comedy of intrigue and that of manners. Guilbert, a young and good-looking surgeon, determines to bury his talents in the provinces no longer, but to take apartments in Paris and commence as a "ladies' doctor." To prosecute successfully this scheme, he is obliged to leave behind him a wife, who is by no means calm under the thought of being deserted. A lover of the lady tells the story of marital treachery with such effect that Madame Guilbert consents to elope with him. But a temporary shelter is necessary before the flight can safely be carried out. It happens, accordingly, that the chamber in which the lady takes refuge is that selected by her husband for the purpose of receiving his patients. An interview, an explanation and a reconciliation follow.—'L'Echénance,' by M. Georges Petit, which has also been played, is a pleasant comédietta, showing the danger in love affairs of employing good-looking intermediators. An old "savant," who is in love with a girl, induces a young vicomte, his friend, to plead his cause. So eloquent is the pleader that the day is won, and the lady consents to espouse, not the doctor, but his delegate.

#### Dramatic Gossip.

IN consequence of an accident to Mr. Sothorn, who hurt himself in the hunting-field, 'New Men and Old Acres' will be continued twelve nights longer at the Haymarket.

A SERIES of representations, including Parthenia, in 'Ingomar'; Margaret Elmore, in 'Love's Sacrifice,' Romeo and Hamlet, have been given at Sadler's Wells by Miss Marriott since her return from America.

AMONG the lectures announced by the Society for the Encouragement of the Fine Arts is one by Dr. Westland Marston, 'On the Tragic Elements in the Drama and Fiction.'

THE Odéon celebrated the anniversary of Molière's birth by a performance of 'Tartuffe' and the 'Malade Imaginaire.' Some verses by M. André Delpit, entitled 'La Voix du Maître,' were delivered. They professed to present a dialogue between Molière and a young poet, his pupil.

THE title of M. Sardou's new piece, in preparation at the Gymnase, is 'Fernande.'

'LES VIVEURS DE PARIS,' a drama by M. Xavier de Montépin, has been revived at the Menus Plaisirs.

ATTENDING the production of 'Lucrece Borgia,' 'La Dame de Monsoreau' of M. Dumas, has been played at the Porte Saint-Martin.

So profitable are the receipts at first representations in Paris that the managers, compelled to lose the price of the seats accorded to the critics, or do without notices in the press, are sadly disturbed in spirit. M. Laroche, of the Théâtre de Cluny, has hit upon a new plan, and has summoned the critics to a morning performance of Madame Gustave Fould's play, 'Le Médecin des Dames,' which will be again represented in the evening. Critics, we should suppose, will look upon a scheme like this with little favour. The performances, moreover, will necessarily partake, to a certain extent, of the nature of a rehearsal.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—T. V.—N. M.—C. M. O'K.—A. H.—S. A. T.—J. R. L. S.—F. H. K.—T. A.—Dr. A. received.



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